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JANES HOLMES, TOOK'S COURT.

### REVIEWS

THE SURTEES SOCIETY.

The Book of Reginald, Monk of Durham, on the Admirable Merits of St. Cuthbert, as displayed in these later Days—[Reginaldi Monachi Dunelmensis Libellus de admirandis Beati Cuthberti Virtutibus, quæ novellis patratæ sunt Temporibus]. 8vo. Nichols & Son.

THE memory of Mr. Surtees, the elaborate historian of the County Palatine of Durham, is held in considerable reverence by his neighbours. Though this sentiment was chiefly inspired by his private virtues, his learning has had some share in it. The county has not been very pro-lific of literary men; the few whose names are worth mentioning were of the clerical profession; and no expectation, we believe, was entertained that among the landed gentry a writer would arise capable of shedding a lustre on their intellectual gloom. When he did appear, "his order" hastened to take advantage of the phenomenon; and they evinced their gratitude by gratuitously presenting him with the plates ne-cessary for the illustration of his ponderous work. This was liberal enough; and had the county followed in the train, by subscribing with any-thing like zeal for his volumes, he would have had more reason to be satisfied with that gratitude. But, unfortunately for him, literary merit is not so easily measured as a vein of coal, and, we are sure, not half so much appreciated. With all his connexions, it may be doubted whether the author (who published by subscription) ever sold 200 copies of the History: his pecuniary loss must, therefore, have been great. But he had one advantage over hundreds of his brother authors, whose labours were as indefatigable, and whose sacrifices were as great as his own, — he could bear the loss without incon-

This 'History of the County Palatine of Durham' is one of the best of our topographical works. It will live, because it is written with elegance; because it contains abundant matter not to be found in its predecessors; and because the subject is unquestionably one of interest, alike to the general and to the local antiquary,—alike to the historian and to the topographer. It has, however, its defects. It is frequently inaccurate, even in points which must have been under the author's daily observation; it betrays numerous marks of negligence,—in one, too, who felt he was negligent, yet would not take the pains to set himself right. Where he touches on general history, or where his subject (as in the case of the origin, early connexion, or diplomatic proceedings of some bishop,) leads him out of the kingdom, his materials are scanty, worn out, and, therefore, unsatisfactory. If to these unfavourable circumstances, we add the outrageous price of the book, (the three folio volumes already published being sold at six guineas each,) we shall scarcely be surprised that so few copies have found their way into our private, or even our public libraries.

But these considerations, however important in themselves, have had little influence on the founders of the Surtees Society. He was known to be ardently attached to literature; his acquirements were varied and extensive; his knowledge was not, indeed, systematic, because his reading was desultory, but he could display it to

advantage; and as he had a lively fancy, a ready | wit, and colloquial powers of the first order, he left on the mind of every one an impression that he was much more learned than he really was, If we add, that the kindness of his heart equalled the playfulness of his manner, and that his friends were sincerely attached to him, we have the causes which led some of them to contemplate the establishment of a Society that should perpetuate at once his peculiar studies and his name. Accordingly, in April 1834, a few months after his death, a preliminary meeting was held; the nature and objects of the proposed Society were discussed, and rules for its government drawn Its name was to be the SURTEES SOCIETY ; its object "the publication of inedited manuscripts, illustrative of the intellectual, the moral, the religious, and the social condition of those parts of England and Scotland, included in the east between the Humber and the Frith of Forth, and in the west between the Mersey and the Clyde,—a region which constituted the ancient kingdom of Northumbria." After this meeting a circular was addressed by the Secretary, the Rev. James Raine, to such gentlemen as were most likely to feel interested in the design, and the appeal was not in vain; about fifty members immediately signified their approbation of the project; and on the 27th of May, 1834, the Surrees Society was finally established. That number, we believe, is now more than trebled; so that not the slightest fear can be entertained of its success.

The rules of the Society concern alike its government and proceedings. The government is confided to a council of sixteen members, triennially elected. All future members of the Society to be elected annually, by ballot, at the general meeting; "one black ball in ten to exclude." The subscription of two guineas annually from each member, to be expended in the transcription, printing, and publication of MSS. By Rule 6, "The Council itself is at liberty to supply matter for the press for the first year. Afterwards, it shall annually call upon twenty members, in alphabetical order, for notices of MSS. which they, who are applied to, would recommend to be printed. These notices shall be sent to the Secretary within a prescribed small be sent to the Secretary within a prescribed time, accompanied by the MS. itself, or an analysis of its contents. But, in no instance, shall any member be applied to by the Council a second time, until each member shall have had an opportunity of recommending a MS., or of waiving his turn." By Rule 7, "No MS. shall be sent to the press by the Council without the sanction of a majority of the members. In order to obtain this sanction, the Council is directed, by their Secretary, to submit to each member, upon a single sheet, a condensed printed account of the various analyses which have been sub-mitted for consideration. This sheet each member will return to the Secretary, with a mark in the margin opposite to those MSS. of which he approves the publication. The Council may, if it think fit, point out, as a matter of opinion, such in particular as it approves. The votes of members who return no answer, shall be at the disposal of the Council." The subsequent Rules concern the extent to which notes, biographical sketches, and other matter necessary for the illustration of any author, shall be carried; the number of copies to be printed, and other matters,

which are to rest with the decision of the Council. On the whole, we approve of these regulations. Without a Council resident near the centre of operations, and, consequently, able to be convened or consulted at any time, the executive government of the Society could not be carried on; it would be impossible, on every emergency, to solicit the individual suffrages of near 200 members, scattered over the whole empire, and most of them too deeply engaged in other pursuits to have leisure for such considerations. It is sufficient that every member will, in turn, be allowed to suggest any MS. for publication; that even where he is not consulted, no MS. can be put into the printer's hands, without the written approbation of the majority, however distant their abodes from Durham; and that the members of the Council are elected by a majority of votes. The constitution of the Society, indeed, could not well be more radical.

Nor do the names, of which the list of members is composed, exhibit a less gratifying presage of success. The Council is composed of the Duke of Buccleugh, President; of twelve Vice-Presidents—viz. the Rev. Dr. Gilly, Prebendary of Durham, &c.; the Rev. S. Gamlen, Vicar of Heighington; James Hamilton, M.A., Lecturer in the Durham University; the Rev. Joseph Hunter, F.S.A., Sub-Commissioner on the Public Records; Dr. Irving, Keeper of the Advocate's Library, Edinburgh; the Rev. Dr. Lingard; Sir Frederic Madden, Keeper of the MSS. British Museum; Sir Thomas Phillipps, Bart.; Dr. Southey; George Taylor; the Rev. George Townsend, M.A., Prebendary of Durham, &c.; W. Calverley Trevelyan. To whom must be added, the two Treasurers, Mr. Allan, of Durham, and Mr. Nichols, the publisher, of London, with the Secretary, the Rev. James Raine. The rest of the members consist of some Peers, some of the Lower House of Parliament, several of the clergy, several of the landed gentry, and, above all, of literary men.

Highly respectable, however, as the list evidently is, there are some omissions which must occasion equal surprise and pain. There are only three dignitaries of Durham—Gilly, Hamilton, and Townsend—what excuse have the rest to offer for their indifference to such a cause; a cause, too, which has especial claims on their attention? What has prevented the Bishop of the diocese,—what the Right Reverend the Dean,—what the Venerable the Archdeacon, and eight other dignitaries, from venturing to promote the interest of literature? What, too, has induced the greater part of the professors and teachers of Durham University to stand alfor from the cause? Let their motives be what they may, they reflect little credit on either that reverend or this tearned body. The Society will, doubtless, do very well without their support, but they will have some difficulty in satisfying the community at large, for what that community will consider a dereliction of their duty. The ample funds, at least, of the Chapter might be far better employed than in what they absurdly call "hospitality dinners."

The funds of the Surtees Society will already permit the publication of three octavo volumes annually. Two have issued from the press,—the work of Reginald, the monk, and a volume of Wills and Inventories: a more important volume, the celebrated Townley Mysteries, is,

we believe, in the hands of the printer, and may, ere long, be expected to appear.

The book of Reginald, (the first of the series of publications embraced in the plan of the Society,) appeared nearly twelve months ago. It was not wholly unknown to former antiquaries. It was cited by the Bollandists in their Acts of St. Cuthbert; and it was occasionally referred to by other hagiologic writers, from Harpsfeldt to Alban Butler, and from Butler to Dr Lingard. It was consulted by Surtees in his ponderous ' History of the Palatinate,' and by Raine in his 'St. Cuthbert.' It is now, for the first time, printed from a MS. in the Dean and Chapter library of Durham; and sure we are, that its reception by the few who can obtain possession of it, and are able to appreciate its value, will do honour to the choice of the Society. We say, by the few, for, unfortunately, four hundred copies only have issued from the press; and of these, when the members of the Society are supplied, about two hundred only will remain for the public. We doubt, indeed, if so many will remain, since copies must be reserved for future members; and probably the Council will not feel itself justified in permitting the sale of more than one hundred and fifty. This is to be regretted; though liberality itself, in comparison with the Roxburghe, the Iona, and other humbugs of the same precious class, the Surtees Society must not here escape censure: at least, seven hundred copies of the work before us should have been printed. The Council should not have calculated merely for the English market: they should have re membered how eagerly such books are purchased in various parts of the continent; and they should have appointed two agents, one at Paris, the other at Leipsic. Let us hope that, in the future publications, the same room for complaint will not remain.

We cannot better introduce this monk and his book to our readers, than in the language of the preface :-

"Of Reginald, the writer of the present volume, or rather let us say, the credulous collector of the legends it contains, nothing is known, save that he was a monk of Durham in the twelfth century. Of his period there can be no doubt, as he speaks (p. 100) of an event which happened in the year 1165 (nostris diebus), and gives other dates down to the year 1172 (p. 254); and as the 'Libellus' is dedicated to St. Ethelred, the celebrated Abbot of Ricvaulx, who was then advanced in years (p. 7), and whose life is known to have extended into the latter

half of the twelfth century.

"It was chiefly at the suggestion, and partly by the assistance, of the Abbot of Rievaulx, that the present collection was made." (p. 4 and 32.) "That the legends of Reginald were received with full assurance of faith, is indubitable, a fact humiliating enough to human reason. Of his veracity, we have no means of judging; but that the venerable Abbot of Rievaulx, whose life was a model of all the virtues, would relate that which, however absurd and even puerile, he did not believe to be true, will be admitted by no one acquainted with his character and writings.‡ This excessive credulity was the universal failing of the Middle Ages. When every part of nature was peopled with visionary beings; when the domestic fiend nightly frequented the hearth; when the elfin tribe, scattered over the wild heath, or in the woodland glade, danced in the pale moonbeam; when the water-nymph sang to the dashing of the torrent, and the mountain-spirit screamed from his craggy eminence; when the souls of the deceased visited the scenes of their earthly experience,-what wonder that the same superstitious feeling should give rise to so many miracles of the saints? Men whose lives were distinguished for exalted virtue,

were justly held to be the favourites of heaven; that this favour should be signalized in a supernatural manner was, under the creed of the age, to be expected. \* \* It is, however, some gratification to find, that even in the darkest period, miracles were believed to be wrought, not by the virtue of the saints, but by the power of God. Even Reginald, one of the most credulous of hagiologic writers, says, 'Omnia quidem ipsorum (sanctorum) opera digna præconio sunt, quia singula insorum in Dei potentia et ipsius nomine gloria facta sunt.' This general declaration may be a sufficient reply to questions which might arise from parts of his book, where the sole merit seems to be attributed to his favourite saint."

In the wildest legends of Reginald, there is

often a poetic beauty which few of our modern versifiers could equal. Thus, the description of a storm at sea (chap. 23); the invocation of St. Cuthbert's succour by the perishing fishermen, and the immediate appearance of that prelate at the helm, "indumentis pontificalibus omnimodis redimitus, et mitrà in capitis vertice laureatus,' who guided them with rapidity, through a tremendous sea, form a picture as graphic as can be drawn. Thus also in chaps. 58 and 59: " Reginald has evinced much of poetic conception upon a subject admitting of the most minute graphical description, but yet requiring high imaginative powers to maintain the dignity of the scene. In the first, the scene is laid at Farne; day, Christmas-eve; time, midnight. A monk sleeping in the church observes a stream of light bursting in through the doorway-sees torchbearers enter, followed by a personage of honourable age, who goes to the high altar, and performs the service which belongs to the night, amid a blaze of torches, and assisted by a choir of angels." In the second, the supernatural display is still more imposing. Again the time is midnight-the scene, the church of the island. A deacon, while sleeping in the northern precincts of the church, is suddenly awakened by a great tumult at the western door, but mixed with the sweetest music. The doors fly opentwo men arrayed in white albs enter-proclaim that St. Cuthbert in person was about to celebrate mass, and proceed to make the necessary preparations at the altar. The bishop and the choir soon paced the aisles, advanced to the same holy place, and, amidst the most ravishing music, celebrated the mass of the Holy Ghost; while the whole edifice was resplendent with a light truly celestial. Again, in chapter 65, we have ample proof of Reginald's descriptive powers. A priest in the Forest of Arden, in Nottinghamshire, a very pious man, and most affected towards St. Cuthbert, to whom his church is dedicated, exerts himself nobly during a famine, to relieve the poor in his neighbourhood. On the festival of the saint he entertained all comers during a week. While thus occupied, a band of robbers, after plundering, burning, and killing, in every direction, arrive at the same place in the hope of finding something for the exercise of their vocation. At their approach, the peasants, with their flocks, herds, and substance generally, took refuge-some in caverns and forests, some in the churchyard, in the belief that reverence for St. Cuthbert would protect them and theirs from the fate which had befallen so many others. But dead saints were not likely to terrify men,-probably half Pagans,-who never quailed before the living warrior. Irritated at finding the village deserted, they surrounded the churchyard, scaled the walls, or broke the locks of the gates, and began to drive away the cattle in triumph. In vain did the priest manfully intercede for his parishioners; he spoke to the winds; away the cattle were driven to a plot of ground surrounded by water in the neighbourhood, where the robbers feasted, drank, sang, and slept. But was St. Cuthbert,-he who

had already performed so many wonders,—to be thus insulted? A profound sleep overcame the robbers: the priest, who had a martial soul. hastily collected a few of his parishioners, and all flew to the place, hoping, by the saint's help, to recover their substance. They found all in the same apathetic state, -even the eighty armed centinels who had been appointed to guard the margin of the island. Without the aid of a miracle, we may easily account for the surprise, discomfiture, and flight of men awakened at midnight out of a sound sleep: but without one, how could the saint be duly honoured? The noise accompanying the approach of the invaders is-the saint's own device-at once curious and graphic. Contrary to our usual practice, we give it in the original, that the learned reader may judge alike of the style and manner :-

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"Interim igitur, rusticano more sævientes, alii vangas resarciendo voces stridentes efferunt; nonnulli vero ligones hebetatas exacuunt; illi fustes excidunt; alii palos humeris componentes imponunt. Clamoribus siquidem diversis frementes insonabant: alii stridulos dentibus cachinnos infrænabant; illi ululatibus conclamabant : isti horrisonis tumultibus sera diverbarabant. Unde animalia, insolito horrore et tremula hæsitatione confusa, mixtim pariterque ululabant, et contra alios, quibusdam gemituum et stridoris horroribus, de insula prædicta confremebant. Audires enim equos pascua deserere et conatibus totis hinnire; oves dissilire et balatibus insurgere; boves mugire et lividis cornibus prædones impetere ; porcos vero grunnire, et in cuneos medios gregatim insurgendo irruere. Beatus enim Cuthbertus vocum tumultus tales in castris andire fecerat, quales nemo hostium ante audierat. Nam sonitus tonitruum et ictus fulminum et terræ motuum tanta subito hostium Beati Cuthberti aures confusione pervaserunt, quod terram eos deglutire velle putabant."

The result was, that the half-awakened thieves, still farther confounded by the noise and darkness, and believing that a large force was upon them, fell upon one another, or were drowned in the river, or finally succeeded by swimming to effect their escape : within a single hour, not one remained on the spot. Great was the treasure thus won, consisting of far more than had been stolen in the neighbouring districts.

The preceding is, no doubt, a true transaction, when divested, as it easily may be, of its supernatural incidents. The author tells us that it was in the reign of king Stephen, and consequently in his own time. Very many are the allusions to the dreadful state of things-allusions, too, confirmed by all contemporary history—under the feeble sway of that monarch. "For," says our monk, "he was the mildest being on the face of the earth, persevering in clemency, and always ready to pardon: in word and deed he was alike extremely pleasant, always addressing the poor and the destitute with the greatest suavity; and ever prompt was he in consoling alike by sympathetic looks and alms-giving." When evil was spoken of any one, the royal saint—for such he was—esteemed it calumny: his was the disposition "to bear all things," "to hope all things," to forgive his personal, and, unfortunately, the public enemies, with too much facility. In short, his virtues degenerated into weakness, and weakness, too, of the worst kind, since his subjects were the chief sufferers. In chapter 67, Reginald is graphically true in describing the disorders of the period. The forts and castles, he says, were chiefly in the possession of beardless youths, who, at the head of their unscrupulous followers, issued daily from the gates to lay waste the country, or commit whatever mischief they pleased. These followers were paid from the plunder they obtained under their chief's direction; and he who had not such a command, was nobody—("Nec famam nominis aliquantulam habuit, quisquis eû tempestate oppidorum præsidia non possedit.") Hence, in his own dis-

<sup>‡</sup> For the Life of St. Ethelred, see Bollandus, Acta S.S. die Januarii xii. For his historical writings, see Twysden, Decem Scriptores; for his religious, the 13th volume of the 'Bibliotheca Patrum Latinorum.' His character, as a writer, is fully entered into by Cellier, 'Histoire des Autsurs Sacrés et Ecclesiastiques,' tom. xxii. p. 13, &c.

<sup>§</sup> Analysis of the chapter at the end of the volume

trict, such a man was a petty king, who seized whatever he desired, and violently subjected to his intolerable tyranny whatever he pleased. ("Unde unusquisque horum de sud regione regulus exstitit, et quicquid tyrannide cruenta perquisierat, truculenta dominatione sibi violentis manibus subjiciebat.") And to carry on their rapacious deeds without exciting the compunction of their men, these reguli always chose such as were of the most abandoned character, and brought them from a distance. One of these bandit chiefs, who was stationed at Nottingham, brought a few of these knaves from Tewkesbury, to assist him in plundering the district; and one of their exploits was to steal the cattle belonging to the village of Normanton. But the village and church belonged to the priests of Durham, and consequently to St. Cuthbert. The pro-vincial who resided there, not doubting that the saint would be able to procure the restoration of what he had been pleased to bestow, pursued the thieves to Nottingham-always a sad place -but finding the drawbridge up, he retired for the night to the convent near at hand. The next morning, accompanied by another monk, he hastened to the fortress, and besought the castellan to restore the cattle of St. Cuthbert. As well might he have addressed the ponderous bastions. Sir Julian asserted that he cared not one straw for the saint, or for the worshippers of the saint. The fierce knight was on a mettled horse, confiding at once in the vigour of his arm, and the prowess of his men; and he galloped away with the utmost contempt from the pro-vincial. But was the saint to be thus insulted? As the sinner rode along, he was pierced to the heart by a rival, with whom he had quarrelled at dice, and who had vowed a fatal revenge.

The preceding is but one passage among many that might be adduced to illustrate the woful state of society under "this most pious king." To most readers, such historical particulars may be the most interesting parts of the volume: they are certainly the most useful; but we, who have seen so much of history, are quite as well pleased with the marvellous, often poetic, legends of the writer. For another specimen of his imagination,-and one almost unrivalled for minute description,—we refer to chapter 68. The village of Lixtune, in Cheshire -its isolated situation on the coast-its little chapel built of timber and twigs, and surrounded by the creeping vine-the crow which, confiding in the solitude of the place, built its nest in the roof-the rashness of the youth who resolved to take the nest, though the oratory was dedicated to the great St. Cuthbert,-the most ready of all the saints to resent any insult to his honour,-the fall of the youth, and his acute sufferings-his repentance, and his lamentations during three days before the altar of the saint, whose clemency he continually invoked-the appearance of that bishop at midnight, advancing from the altar to the prostrate sinner—the description of the saint—" Eratque sublonga facie, inedia maturus; et conspersus canitie; casulâ togatus aurea; mitra, ut videbatur, redimitus ardente cristallina; vultus sole rutibante nitidior; stellantibus oculis clementi respectu mansuetur ; fragorque gemmarum qui limbo tornatili dextraria manuum perornaverat, ex contactu baculi pastoralis, qui unionum et margaritarum copiosa multitudine insignitus fuerat, latius perstrependo personabat;"—the subsequent cure of the youth by the saint, who, though resentful, is never implacable,-are described with a fidelity and a minuteness which we should in vain seek in any other writer of the age. It is, indeed, impossible for the reader of taste to peruse this chapter without exclaiming-" This is true poetic art-associating and contrasting the most splendid pontifical pomp with the

meanness of the place and the person. With what admirable distinctness, too, the scene is stamped by the beautiful minutiæ of the description!"

From the preceding observations, still more from the perusal of the entire book, we must praise the Society for its judicious choice of Reginald. A better one could scarcely have been made. "If the chief object of that Society (says the preface,) be to illustrate the intellectual, the moral, the religious, and social condition of the northern counties of England, that object will assuredly not suffer by the publication of the present volume. Within itself it exhibits something of all these characteristics.' observation is verified in a majority of the chapters. From such books, indeed, a better knowledge of English society may be obtained, than from all the histories that have ever been written. It must, we acknowledge, be incidentally obtained; but this will be an objection to such readers only as do not like the trouble of re-

We tear ourselves with considerable reluctance from this interesting volume. We shall soon revert to the proceedings of the Society, by noticing the second of its publications. In the meantime, success to its labours!—a wish, we are sure, in which every true lover of antiquity will join.

Sketches of Germany and the Germans: including a Tour in parts of Poland, Hungary, and Switzerland. By an Englishman resident in Germany. 2 vols. [Second Notice.]

We resume our balloon journey in company with the author of these well-filled volumes, beginning with a bird's-eye view of Cologne, (in which some will be surprised to find not even a peep at the Three Kings,) Treves, Mayence, Frankfort. At the latter, the traveller pauses for a while, to talk of "the whereabouts" of the Rath-haus—and the Teufelshaus—the theatre being thus called by the old puritan inhabitants—and of the Ariadne of Dannecker, (here, too, we gratefully remember Mrs. Jameson's poetical description,) and the bridge with its cross and cock, the relics of an old legend, which gave occasion to a casual travelling companion of the author's to claim Frankfort as a rightful portion of the Gallic empire.

"Iknow not (continues he) whether the French gentleman I have alluded to intends publishing his travels, but, if he does, the world will be edified by some very surprising discoveries; for instance, he read me the following extract from his note-book: 'London, Regent's Park, the letters S. M. B. + for Sa Majesté Britannique, are painted on all the iron posts, to mark the boundaries of the king's domains in the quarter. How proud we ought to feel at this additional proof of the universal adoption of our most

civilized language!" " From these lighter matters, the tourist turns to examine the constitution and consequences of the Prusso-Germanic commercial league, but this we shall leave, the present article being rather one of anecdote and extract, than of political discussion. From Frankfort, we are led along to Darmstadt-which ought to be a Mecca for musicians, for the sake of its late Duke, whose passion for the art was so absorbing, that, not content with conducting his own opera, he caused all the church chimes of the town to undergo an harmonic regeneration,-thence to Heidelberg, in which we are told more of the foolish and boyish absurdities of its students, than of the ruined glory of its palace, that built romance. The duels of these hopes of Germany come whimsically near child's play, the combatants being stuffed and bolstered

"! For the information of such of my readers as live at a distance from this delightful promenade, the letters in question signify nothing more than St. Mary-le-Bone, the name of the parish."

round till the chance of a wound becomes infinitely small, and a scratch on the face is found to suffice for the appeasing of wounded honour. From Heidelberg, the next stage is to Manheim, a hallowed spot to the lover of German drama; for hence it was that the fame of Schiller's 'Robbers' first set all the Burschen on fire.

Carlsruhe, "Charles's rest," the next point upon which the eye fixes in our flight, offers little for specific notice, though a pleasant town, with an inn comfortable to magnificence, and an opera of rare excellence. As little that is new can be said of Baden, with its baths and its Cursaal, and the mountain streams round it, -delightful for the fly-fisher's use, had not the peasantry the awkward habit of mistaking his sport for sorcery, and breaking his tackle, lest he should charm away their fish. Through Freiburg and Badenweiler, we start for Schaff hausen, through the little principality of Donaueschingen, thence via Lindau, Bregentz, Kempten, to Ulm. Here we take boat for Vienna in one of the regular Danube packets.

"How to describe this specimen of German boatbuilding, is the difficulty; for nothing that I ever beheld, whether ship, barge, boat or cance, bore the slightest resemblance to it. Let my readers, then, imagine a large mass of unplaned, unpainted deal boards, or, rather, beams, in some places nailed, in others bound together by willow ropes, into something that bore a distant resemblance to a boat. Its internal arrangements corresponded with its exterior. A small square enclosure, about four feet high, was the substitute for a cabin, and the furniture being limited to a plank for a table, and two long boards, supported by casks, for seats. The freight was of the most miscellaneous description: we had quantities of Swiss cheese, bales of raw cotton, sour Neckar wine on its way to Vienna to be converted into Rhenish, and an endless variety of other packages. The live stock was confined to human beings, with the exception of four dogs, two cats, and a quantity of snails. A few empty sacks were spread as substitutes for cushions, upon which the passengers seated themselves sans cérémonie. I had now leisure to examine my fellow prisoners, for such I considered them, and, truly, a more motley assemblage I have rarely seen. We had a French milliner, bound for Vienna; her little family consisted of a white poodle, and a large grey Angora cat, one or other of which constantly reposed on her lap: we had also two young English ladies, and their father; a German baron, and a count of the Holy Roman Empire; the remainder consisted of students, actors, artisans, peasants, a few soldiers and their wives, and a pretty round number of frail lasses, on a pilgrimage to the Maison d'Accouchement at Vienna; in short, I verily believe, that specimens might be found of every shade and variety of the middling and lower classes of German society.

"I waited with some degree of impatience to see in what manner the unwieldy machine was to be set in motion: this was at length slowly effected, after much vociferation among the boatmen, who were not the most adroit of their profession, and I then found that the propelling impetus was to consist of very large oars, each pulled by six or seven men, and occasionally by a greater number, as several of the passengers, especially the students, volunteered their services; we were also aided by the great rapidity of the stream, which runs down a descent of six hundred and sixty feet, that being the difference between the height of the Danube here, and at Vienna.

"We now glided onwards for several hours very pleasantly, until late in the evening, when, to the infinite dismay of all on board, it was discovered we were stranded; the ill-directed and abortive efforts of the crew, to set the vessel once more floating, were continued for an hour, when the daylight, and the patience of the passengers, failing at the same time, we demanded of the captain, how far it was to the village in which he intended to pass the night? He answered, 'Several miles;—but about half-an-hour's walk from hence,' added he, 'is a small hamlet, in which it is probable you may find accommodation; but there is no way of getting to it, except by wading through the marshes on the banks of the river.' This

was not very agreeable information for hungry travellers: however, there was no alternative, especially

as it was now nearly dark.

"The students, and indeed all the Germans, were soon in motion, and rapidly disappeared through the thick wood of sedges on the margin of the river; but when the plan was proposed to the English ladies and the little Parisienne, they almost screamed with horror, and declared their intention of sitting all night in their cloaks in the cabin: they were, however, persuaded to abandon their resolution, as some of the boatmen offered to carry them through the mire. When it came to the Frenchwoman's turn to mount her conveyance, she vehemently insisted on taking her four-footed favourites, to which the boatman as vehemently objected; but, as the office of interpreter was delegated to me, I added my persuasions, and the little darlings were left to pine in the vessel.

"After making our way in the best manner we could for about a quarter of an hour, through the marshes and willows, we arrived at the open country, where the ladies, to their great satisfaction, were deposited upon terra firma, and after walking another quarter of an hour, we beheld the lights gleaming in the village intended to be our destination. When we came to the only inn of the place, which, by-the-bye, was very small, we found that those who preceded us had appropriated all the refreshment the house afforded, and it was with no little difficulty that some rye bread and weak beer were procured in the village. The beds were assigned to the women, and the men were obliged to content themselves with their cloaks and straw."

Our author almost prefers the scenery of the Danube to the more renowned beauties of the "blue and castled Rhine." Passing Ratisbon, Muggendorf, upon "the Iser rolling rapidly," Passau, with its pretty valley and fantastically-built Lust-hauses, Linz, the capital of Upper Austria, we come upon the Strudel, and the whirlpool of Wirbel: the following is a picturesque passage:—

"After triumphing over these horrors of the Danube! I perceived the stealthy figure of a tall ascetic monk issuing out of a small chapel, at the foot of a projecting cliff, and enter a small boat, from which was streaming a blue flag, with this inscription

in gold letters\_\_

'Für die Rettung!' For your preservation.

"On approaching us, he held up a small image of St. Nicholas, the patron of the Danube. I could not help smiling at the imaginary apprehensions of these good people, and the eager credulity with which they tendered the tribute to their protector, at the same time devoutly crossing themselves, and exclaiming—
Gelobt sey Nicholas und Maria, wir sind glücklich hinüber!'
All praise and glory to St. Nicholas and the Virgin—we have safely passed the danger.

"For myself, I heartily regretted that we had not more Saurüssels and Strudels to pass, and I could not help feeling angry with the spiteful stream that conveyed me so rapidly from these beautiful scenes. I was, however, in some degree compensated by the romantic coup-d'œil that now broke upon my view ; the little bark of the monk was lightly skimming over the water, his simple monastic costume, the deep solitary abyss, the wild scenery around, the hoarse cry of the birds of prey over our heads, min-gled with the distant sounds of the shepherds' horns, the approach of a team of oxen, and their tinkling bells, ascending a projecting cliff, as they towed a barge against the stream, our own ill-shaped ark, the stillness of the waters through which we were now moving, the roar of the cataract behind us, and the whistling and plunging of a troop of otters, escaping from the dogs of the drivers, united to form a picture peculiar to the Danube, over which the crimson rays of the setting sun occasionally flung a slanting glance through the deep fissures of the rocks."

We shall glance very slightly at Vienna—city of pleasure though it be, with all its curiosities and temptations, which are within the town, or gladden the environs, they being already well known to us. Neither shall we intermeddle with such slippery matters as Austrian politics, further than to treat our readers with a sketch

of their Archimago-the much-talked of, and little understood. Metternich.

"How changed is the mighty Premier of Austria since I last saw him! What ravages have a few years committed in the fine countenance of one of the handsomest men of Vienna! We now no longer see before us the gay, the gallant courtier, no longer the brilliant meteor of the social circles! Age has, however, in some degree atoned for its thefts, by making him interesting and venerable; and as I beheld him, leaning on the arm of the young emperor, appearing like a sage sent to infuse wisdom into his councils, I thought him one of the most intellectual looking men I had ever seen. Indeed, it is impossible to behold this great man without admiration, however we may dislike his sentiments, when we remember that his superior mind alone has steered the ship of state, so long tossed by the waves, and buffeted by the tempest, into the harbour of peace and safety. He is of middling stature, and slightly formed, his countenance pale, and his lofty browstrongly marked with the lines of thought; his head is finely shaped, with an expressive gray eye, and his mouth of that depressed form which always indicates firmness of character; his manners are conciliating, serious, and dignified; and while listening to his eloquent conversation, it is not difficult to discover, even beneath the bland tone of his voice, the energy and decision of a great mind. I have heard from several of his friends (for the courteous speeches in public of such a complete man of the world as Metternich are not to be depended upon), that he is really a friend of England and the English, admires our institutions, and laughs at the would-be political oracles of Germany, who gravely pronounce us on the eve of a revolution, and asserts, that the good sense of England will never lead her into anarchy, so long as the go-vernment defers to the openly expressed feeling of the respectable part of the community. He is also an enthusiastic admirer of the public press of England, controlled as it is by the good sense of the people. That these are his private sentiments is in some measure borne out by his marked courtesy in receiving the English, to whom he is more than usually lavish of smiles and civil speeches. Indeed, if I may infer the political sentiments of a court by the manners and behaviour of its sovereign and ministers, I should be inclined to consider that we have in Austria an ally, and for the same cause must deem Prussia an enemy.

Two incidental anecdotes, too, will be acceptable, relating to the French occupation of Vienna. The first was related to the author by a French officer.

" After the battle of Wagram," said my friend, "which decided the fate of the Austrian empire, Napoleon established his head-quarters at Schönbrun. It so happened, that I was on duty in the palace about midnight, and while passing the apartment of the emperor, I heard a noise, appearing as if he was in the act of repelling an attack, which caused me to fly to his assistance. In doing so, I was accompa-nied by another officer and the Mameluke, when a most ridiculous scene presented itself. The greatest warrior of Europe was engaged, sword in hand, in mortal combat, charging, not an assassin, but—must I say it—a cat! Upon seeing how contemptible an enemy we had to subdue, we could not forbear smiling; and the emperor, after a hearty laugh, good-naturedly related to us the origin of his dislike to When I was the little tyrant of rats and mice. very young,' said he, 'I took great pleasure in hunting cats and dogs; and when I saw them flying from my doughty strokes, I fancied myself already a One of my sisters had a pet Angola cat, to whom I had become an object of great dislike, from the incessant war I waged against it. Having one day found it alone in a room, I commenced my attack as usual, whip in hand: the little tiger, frantic with rage, flew at my head, tore and bit me in such a manner, that the marks remain to this day. My cries soon brought assistance, but so deep was the impression stamped upon my young mind, that I verily believe, at this moment, I should prefer attacking a lion to a cat.'

with such slippery matters as Austrian politics, further than to treat our readers with a sketch triumphal march of the French troops, as they took

possession of the capital of his beloved country, he was not a little alarmed when he observed an officer and his guard stop at the door of his house, and demand an interview. The immortal composer of the Creation advanced to meet them, and with a trembling voice demanded for what purpose they sough him, adding, with great humility, 'I am merely poor Haydn, the composer; what crime can I have committed against the French government?' 'None,' replied the officer, smiling; 'on the contrary, I have received the orders of the Emperor Napoleon to place a sentinel at your door, in order to protect and honour an individual of such rare genius.' The guard was continued while the French occupied Vienna; and whenever the troops passed his door, the band played some of his most celebrated compositions."

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After a thorough rummage + of Vienna, where our author seems, for a wonder, to wish to linger, a journey to Hungary follows as a matter of course. He visits the lake of Neusiedler by the way, and, passing over Marchfield plain, discusses Austrian politics, as bearing upon the fortunes of Hungary; but his space is too limited to allow of more than a few passing words; and those who may desire to rest in his pages for a short period of tranquil consideration, will find themselves whirled along the route to Trieste before they are aware, and passing through Styria, (a district where a short sojourn would be agreeable,) almost at rail-road pace. We have just a glimpse of Gratz, a miniature Vienna, Laybach, (here the scene is changed for Carniola,) Adelsberg, the German grotto par ex-cellence, for the extent and rude grandeur of its caverns. We return from Trieste by Pola, Cherso, Fiume—the temporary depository of the Casa Santa,—the pass of the Leobel—a magnificent road, cut (in many places through the solid rock) four thousand three hundred feet above the level of the sea, Clagenfurt, the mines of Idria, the shrine of Maria Zell, the lake Konig-see to Salzburg,-" owing to the number of its churches, profusion of marble statues, and flat-roofed houses, reminding one of an Italian city"; a pleasant retreat, too, it would seem, for all such as are disposed towards the cheap agrémens of a continental residence, were it not for the tendency of its air or provisions, or the water with which it is supplied, (doctors disagreeing on the point,) to generate the goitre; which, our author tells us, in a family of his acquaintance, spared, singularly enough, those of a delicate constitution, and fastened upon those merely of robust health.

Munich, with its palace-building and picturecollecting sovereign, Augsburg, Stuttgart, Strasburg, are all of them dispatched, in a very short
compass, in the same pleasant manner,—no page
being without its point of information. But the
book, though, on the whole, it may be useful as
a manual, and is more amusing than nineteen out
of every twenty such publications, is done too
much on Young Rapid's principle; and we come
to its close, for at Strasburg the tourist takes
leave of Germany, in a humour of toleration
towards that most hackneyed of all quotations,—
Leave me—leave me to repose!

1. Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on the British Museum.

2. A Letter to Benjamin Hawes, Esq., &c. By Edward Edwards.

WE noticed, in our former paper, the two great wants, the existence of which in the public generally, and in the institution itself particularly,

<sup>+</sup> Our word, though verging towards slang, will, perhaps, be excused, for the sake of the anecdote which suggested it. A relative of one of the most distinguished astronomers of his time, was one day asked by a lady, (herself no pretender in the sublime science,) if Sir — had made any recent discoveries of importance. "Why no," was the answer; "and, indeed, he has rummaged the heavens so thoroughly, that I don't fancy there is much left for any body to find out."

cause that institution to be inefficient for the purposes for which it was established. The want of a general interest throughout the British public, and especially amongst the functionaries of the British government, is the cause of the want of money; and the want of an individual interest in the institution, on the part of the trustees, is the cause of numerous deficiencies in all the departments thereof. The chief of these deficiencies, in importance, is the want of a general Classed Catalogue in the library; and this deficiency owes its existence as much, perhaps, to the one cause as the other-the parsimony of the public, as the apathy of the trustees. Here, in London, the largest city in Europe, the most wealthy, the most industrious, we possess one of the smallest libraries which any capital of an important state commands in the civilized Paris, not more than two-thirds of the size of London, offers its population a supply of hooks more than five times as extensive; St. Petersburgh exhibits nearly double the number; Copenhagen considerably more than double; Naples nearly double; Dresden about double; and yet with so small a library-with a collection insignificant, when compared with the importance of the capital and the dignity of the nation, we are without a Classed Catalogue,without, indeed, one regular and general Catalogue at all,-without, in short, the means of using the small stores we do possess with any advantage. Need any man accustomed to frequent a library at all,—need any man of common sense, be told the importance of such a Catalogue as may give the greatest facility to research on the part of the student, and the means of promptly supplying the student's wants to the librarian? If there be such a man, let him read the following extracts from Mr. Edwards's pamphlet, and compare what may be done, with the existing state of the catalogues in the British

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"As are the catalogues of a library, so will be its utility," is as true a maxim as that of the German educationists, 'as is the master, so will be the school.'
'What good is the use of a library of more than 200,000 volumes,' writes Heeren in his excellent life of that model of a public librarian, Christian Gottlob Hevne, 'if one knows not what it contains, or knows not where that which it does contain is to be found?"

" As I know of no translation of this little work, I cannot refrain from quoting a passage or two, especially valuable, as containing an account of the admirable system of catalogues established by Heyne at Göttingen.

Notice of the Göttingen Library, and especially of its System of Catalogues .- Extracted from " Christian Gottlob Heyne's Biographisch dargestellt, von A. H. L. Heeren." 8vo. Göttingen, 1812.

"After stating, that in the very year in which Heyne came to Göttingen as second librarian, the entire control of the library was committed to him, and he became chief; and that no further proof is needed of the library owing the pre-eminence it attained, in his time, immediately to his own exertions,

his biographer proceeds :-"'The wide, useful, and even glorious field here opened for all his activity, Heyne suffered not to be Happily his early life had familiarized him with libraries and their arrangements; and through the generous liberality of the men who then governed the state in which he lived, he soon saw himself possessed of the means to create an institution which should be alike worthy of the University and of them; and to carry into execution an idea which, at the very beginning, he had conceived, and of which he never lost sight. The idea was none other, than to form a collection which should possess all the STERLING works [Werke welche ein Wissenschaftlichen werth haben] in every department of knowledge, and in the literature of every nation, as far as possible, equally: such a collection, formed at a place where a crowd of professors and students were

be equalled even in the libraries of the greatest

capitals. \* \*

"When Heyne came to Göttingen, it already sessed a library of from 50 to 60,000 volumes, which, compared with those of most universities, was considerable. At his decease, it had increased, according to the most moderate computation (and without counting recent extraordinary acquisitions from Helmstadt, &c.), to at least 200,000 volumes. Under Heyne's librarianship it had been, therefore, quadrupled. But this increase of number was its smallest claim to admiration. At the commencement of this period, there were entire departments of learning wholly wanting; at its close, not only were these supplied, but the library had become, in this respect, the first, in that it was proportionably rich in every department. That in other respects-in number of volumes, in MSS., in curiosities-it is greatly surpassed by other libraries, every body

"It would be interesting to follow the biographer in tracing the manner in which this change was brought about; but want of space forbids. only add a very brief description of the system of catalogues: 'There are,' says Heeren, 'four different catalogues connected with each other, like the commercial books in a counting-house.

"'I. Every addition to the library is first entered in the "MANUAL" of the year. In this are concisely written the title and date of the book, and the day

of its reception.
"'II. Then the book is entered with its full title in the "ACCESSION-CATALOGUE," which also is com-menced with every year, and forms at its close four volumes; the first containing the entries of books on Theology; 2. Jurisprudence; 3. History; and, 4, Miscellanea. In this catalogue are also entered the form and number of each book, with references to the corresponding entries in the "Manual."

These two first catalogues are intended for the more particular use of the librarians; the remaining two are for the readers.

" III. Is a complete alphabetical catalogue, in which every book is entered under the author's name, when given; or when not given, but known then, with a reference thereto under the chief word of Every book of which the author's name is not known is entered under such chief word of title; and on one side are also entered the date and form, with references to the entries of the same book in "Manual" and "Accession-Catalogue;" on the other, the head in the classed catalogue to which the book belongs. In order to keep a clear alphabetical order, a page is invariably given to every name, or chief word; and when full, such page is taken out, copied, and two inserted in its stead. When the volume becomes too thick it is bound in two.

"' IV. Lastly, the book is entered in the CLASSED OR SCIENTIFIC CATALOGUE (Wissenschaftlichen-Catalog.), according to its subject, and is then placed in that division of the library to which it belo class and position are also entered in Nos. II and III, as well as in the book itself.

'The first two catalogues serve as registers of increase for each year (Einnahme-Register): the alphabetical catalogue answers the question, whether a certain book is in the library, and where it is to be found: the scientific or classed catalogue shews what books are contained in the library on any given

subject.
This is, in brief, the mechanism of the library. A full exposition of it would require the scientific 'Schematismus' on which the whole is based: it would lead us into a survey of knowledge in general, wherein, indeed, the all-encompassing mind of Heyne would be well mirrored, but which would involve a length of detail foreign to the present purpose.

Suppose a person wishes to know what the whole of the collections of MSS, in the Museum contain relative to any particular subject or individual: he has, first, to examine six indexes to printed catalogues [744], and two to manuscript catalogues [746]; and, secondly, to peruse entirely one printed cata-logue, and about twenty-five volumes of manuscript catalogues; but when this labour is performed, he must still remain ignorant of what the collections not catalogued at all contain upon his subject, or else pursuing all the branches of literature and science, promised, he thought, an extensive utility, hardly to about 4000 volumes of MSS. throughout."

And yet the public will be surprised to find, that more than 5000l. has been given by Parliament, for the purpose of forming a Classed Catalogue, not one page of which is before the world, though the first grant was in the year 1826. It may seem that this liberality on the part of government is sufficient to shield them from all blame in the business; but those who know well the usual course of proceeding in such affairs, will not need to be told, that profusion on the one part, goes hand in hand with parsimony on the other; and that nine times out of ten, where large sums have been granted, nothing has ever appeared as an equivalent result. What any rational individual would have done had he desired to possess a Classed Catalogue of such a library as that of the British Museum, (and what the government had much greater facilities of doing,) would have been to select a competent person for the task,-a man of learning, honour, and energy; to have asked him for an estimate of the sum, and of the time required to fulfil that object thoroughly and completely; and then to have demanded whether he would bind himself to fulfil it to the satisfaction of certain able persons, according to the terms he had himself laid down. Having done this, leave him to choose his own inferior agents; and if money be necessary for him to complete his work, let it be advanced to him as required. We rather think that if this plan had been pursued, the sum of 5000l. would have produced some better fruit than can now be shown. But this is the story of Record Comsions over again.

To talk of the difficulty of the task is absurd, with the example of Göttingen before our eyes; to talk of the expense is still more absurd, when we see the sums that are daily squandered without fruit; and to assert that such a Classed Catalogue cannot be kept up in a library rapidly increasing, is proved by the experience of everybody but Englishmen, to be most absurd of all.

This subject is a very interesting one, and comprises so many branches, that we might easily be tempted to extend our remarks to a very wide range; but the pressure of other important themes prevents us from adding more than two hints in regard to particular facts, which, we think, are likely to be used as the foundation for false inferences. First, then, it is certain, that admission to the Royal Library of Paris is shackled with restrictions in point of time, &c. which do not exist in regard to the British Museum; and it may be thence argued that we, the British public, have time and opportunity enough allowed us. Let it be remembered, that in Paris there are six libraries instead of one; and that every Department through the whole country has its own; while every one who requires a public library in England must go to the British Museum. The Universities are nearly

the British Museum. The Universities are nearly

1 A very elaborate brochure was privately printed by
the Trustees of the British Museum, about twelve years
since, entitled Outlines of Classification for a Library, by
the Rev. T. H. Horne. If this were now reprinted, with
such additions and improvements as may have occurred to
the author while making a Catalogue Raisounc of all the
Printed Books in the Museum, upon which, it is understood, he has been employed since the year 1824, we think
it would be an acceptable present to the public. But we
would recommend that it should be printed in the octaro
form, and sold at a price which would render it accessible
to every literary man in the United Kingdom, and we have
little doubt that the sale of this publication would be sufficiently extensive to repay the cost. The Classed Catalogue
above alluded to, has been suspended, to accelerate the
complation of an Alphabetical one. But why cannot these
works go on simultaneously? It is intended, we hear, to
print the latter, which, it is calculated, may extend to sixteen or eighteen octavo volumes. But the better plan, we
apprehend, would be to have the Alphabetical Catalogue
copied on vellum, and placed in the reading-room, till the
Classed one can be completed. This should then be printed
in octavo, is parts, according to subjects, with an Index
of author's names at the end of each pert; and there can
be no doubt that the sale would be extensive, if the book
were properly advertised and made known, and treated in
the same way as other books are.

out of the question. Next, it is proved that books are occasionally sold, which have been taken from the Royal Library of Paris; and it is argued, that this is a proof of too great facility in some respects; and, therefore, that we must be more strict. London, however, has not been the scene of two total revolutions,-has not been occupied by foreign armies; and we trust she never may be. When any apparent difference of this kind is shown between the two countries, let their history and circumstances be examined, and we think that in all literary and scientific matters, the greater liberality will be found upon

the part of France.

Mr. Edwards's book to all persons who are interested in the literary reputation of this country, as well those who have time to read the voluminous folio of evidence as those who have not. The public owe him thanks-which, of course, he will never obtain; but still greater thanks are due to the gentleman to whom Mr. Edwards addresses his letter, and without whose perseverance, industry, and patriotism, the subject would probably never have received the elucidation which the Committee has given it. The matter is one of vast importance to every one who believes that the human heart and human actions may be affected by some nobler and higher principles than the mere motives of self-interest. It is time that Englishmen should feel,-or remember, if they do feel,-that the glory of a country is not alone based upon mi-litary renown—that commercial prosperity is not the sole foundation for a people's respectability; but that high scientific and literary fame, the histre of genius, and the might of mind, form claims to a nobler and more durable national reputation, than can be won by the conqueror's sword, or purchased by the gold of Ophir. The heroes of other ages, magnified, but dimmed, by the mist of distance, stalk about as giant spec-tres, cold, lifeless, and unsubstantial;—their deeds are passed away, and their very being scarcely affects us in its remote results. But the poet, the philosopher, the historian, have come down the brighter for the purifying lapse of time, and cast a glory even yet upon the land they lived in. Every nation, therefore, whose hearts are open to nobler impulses than the mere selfishness of gain, or the barbarous thirst of war, will feel, that science, literature, and art, stand amidst the highest claims to glory; and, while they maintain their commercial respectability and their military renown, will feel as deep an interest in maintaining their claim to intellectual eminence. When this interest is fully felt in England, and it is with deep grief that we admit it is not yet fully felt, we shall no longer be disgraced by a library (compared with the mere numbers of the nation) the smallest in Europe; we shall no longer hear of the trouble and expense of forming or keeping up a regular Catalogue-we shall no longer see the great scientific and literary institution of the capital, governed by men of no literary or scientific fame-we shall no longer find honours, dignities, and rewards showered with a profuse hand upon every other class of men, and scientific and literary men, either absolutely neglected, or insulted by being offered the sweepings of the hall of honour,-the crumbs that fall from the rich man's

Geoffrey Rudel; or, the Pilgrim of Love. By John Graham, Author of 'A Vision of Fair Spirits,' and other Poems. Boone.

THE times of the Minnesingers are gone by! Since those years came in, when

Everything is done by steam, And men are killed with powder, Poetry has ceased to walk the earth as of old,

with picturesque mantle and floating feather, singing love ditties under the windows of Beauty. But, with the soberer garb of an every-day wayfarer, which she has put on, she has lost none of her authority; only she now rules by reason rather than by sentiment-she now enchants by showing, that the ideal subsists in what is real, as well as what is purely imaginative. This is a great and good moral change; but who can see the light of Romance utterly pass away without regret?-who, when some last of the Troubadours takes up his lute, could frown unkindly, and remark that, though it was our forefathers chief delight, the instrument is childish and obso-We have only to add our recommendation of lete? Not we; iron-hearted critics as we are esteemed, one chord of our sympathies is still reserved for everything that is gay, and graceful; we can still thankfully listen to virelais, with as much pleasure as if there were no such things as steam-engines in existence.

In this mood (long be it ere our charity lose one hair's breadth of its universality) we have grown young again over Mr. Graham's charming legend, which is told in verse of most delicate music. We consider him capable of handling themes less evanescent than mere lays of love and chivalry, but we have not the less enjoyed his poem according to its order, and recommend it to all who, like ourselves, are willing to be taken back to those unquestioning years of impulse, rather than thought, when the fancy loved to rest upon sweet words and pleasant images. In the developement of the story, too, -the legend of a pilgrim, who traverses the earth in pursuit of a shape of beauty, and dies when, at last, he reaches her feet,-there may be found a significance by those who will have a moral even in the toy wherewith they trifle away a noon-tide hour; while, for those who enjoy poetry, in proportion as its texture is smooth and harmoniously coloured, there is ample store of pleasure in the songs and descriptions it contains. Two fragments are all that we can extract, but they are enough to justify what has been said.

Born 'neath that burning clime, whose ev'ry ray Was in his soul as in a temple shrin'd, E'en from the morn of childhood's sunny day, The from the month of candinous sumny day,
The found among, he was not of mankind.
With them he walk'd the earth, but far away
Soar'd on its pathless track the poet's mind,
Snatch'd like a borrow'd spark of heav'nly flame
Back to the fiery region whence it came.

He held unseen communion with the sky, And made each star companion of his dream, And made each star companion or ins dream, Wooing their gentle beauty from on high, To the calm mirror of some quiet stream; And thus perchance in childish fantasy, Nearer to their soft light himself would deem, Than if his wearied eye must climb the space Of that deep blue which is their dwelling-place.

And she, the Moon, Eve's melancholy queen, Rob'd in the buried sun's remember'd light, Rob'd in the buried sun's remember a ignt, (Like faith, still fed by lustre which has been, On thro' the gloom of sorrow's darkest night,) Bent to his passionate spell her brow serene, And smote his spirit with her glance of might That glance which maddens all it dwells upon, E'en as of old it smote Endymion.

And like that youthful worshipper of old,
Whose airy lute sigh'd o'er the Latmian hill,
When sleep o'er-canopied his mountain fold,
And to the night each cedar-leaf was still—
He drank her smile so passionately cold,
And bared his warm breast to her glances chill;
Till still within the mirror leafit made. Till stirr'd within, the minstrel spirit wove Its earliest song-the Eloquence of Love.

The worship of the beautiful—where'er
Its visible incarnation seem'd to be,
In woman's cheek seraphically fair,
In rushing streamlet and leaf-clothed tree.
In fleecy cloud, soft-shumbering in air,
In hues of light sun-pictor'd on the sea,
In all one glorious spirit shone around,
Making the world for thee one spot of fairy ground. And thus to dream is Poetry-what tho

Language be all inadequate to seize
Captive the subtle thought, and o'er it throw,
Its soul-wrought chain of linked harmonies? Its soul-wrought chain of linked harmonies? Yet still the godlike feeling sleeps below, Call'd into life by visions such as these; And like the flame deep pent in Ætna's breast, Perchance more brightly burns, because repres

Yet 'tis a curse, a torture to conceal Sweet thoughts, like flowers, budding in the brain. Sweet thougans, are nowers, budding in the brain.
Which fade and die before we can reveal.
To others their brief beauty born in vain.
And still methinks 'twere better not to feel
Than buy such short-lived pleasure with such pain. For to the poet words are a relief, Like tears to uncommunicable grief. Lake tears to uncommunicable gref.

His heart is like a wine-cup overflowing,
Whose depth by Nature's luxury is filled;
Her's is the vintage in its chalice glowing,
By Pancy's wondrous alchymy distill'd;
A dreamy dim intoxication throwing
Over the poet's brain, where she doth build
Her wine-press, winning from each lovely shape
Sweet thoughts, as men crush splendour from the grape. Sweet thoughts, as men crush splendour from the He loveth all those fair and speechless things. Which evermore around him move or grow, From the gay insect with illumin'd wings, Steeped in the golden sunset's summer glow, To the home-loving flow'r who alway springs. Bright from her wonted couch his feet below, Which he from her still fondly turns aside, Fearing the God who therein doth abide. Nature with him so lovingly doth plead,
That e'en unlovely shapes he loveth well;
His heart, which joyeth in the gallant steed
Who bears his lord amid the battle swell,
With arch'd neck thunder-cloth'd, and hoof of speed,
Scorns not the worm who listlessly doth dwell,
Beneath the clay—a miner who hath found,

Like some rich ore, contentment under ground. These sweet passages have been merely taken at random; the poem contains many more beautiful, though perhaps hardly so separable from the story. Mr. Graham has our best wishes: let him not, however, dream away his best years, or sing away the true spirit which is in him, in the fanciful garb of a beau troubadour.

Memoirs of John Selden. By G. W. Johnson. Orr & Smith.

So that a book be good in any one way, we will not quarrel with it, however manifold its defects. We are content to look upon it as a Dutch historical painting, beset with errors and improprieties, but which has a merit of colour, or even manual treatment, to redeem them. In the book before us, however, there is not a single sop for the Cerberus of criticism-rather a makebelieve of it, to baulk and irritate him-but let him this time swallow his foam. Suffice it to say, that the precious part of Mr. Johnson's work would be as difficult to find as the jewel in a toad's head: neither matter, form, nor style, deserves approbation. With regard to the choice of matter especially, we could have pardoned a memoir of the "learned Selden" which said little or nought about his learning, if any other qualification of his had been rendered important enough to fill the larger portion of such a volume. But what is the fact? Why, that these Memoirs of Selden have to be eked out with memoirs of every other person come-at-able, and fiddle-faddle "notices" of nothing to the purpose, which the most unpractised eye can detect as mere padding. We grant that the life of Selden, as of scholars generally, was too abstract and sedate to have much interest; biography reduces itself to little more than epitaph, when adventure and vicissitude are confined to a closet in the Temple, or a garret in Grub Street. But, though Selden did once or twice migrate to a cage in the Tower, and play a sort of continued bye-part in politics, any interest that does attach to his life, is, for the most part, literary. We can imagine the "Monarch of Letters," as old Ben calls him, pourtrayed with great attractiveness under this aspect: no doubt a record of his intellectual existence,-an account of the deeds whereby as antiquarian, jurisprudent, and philosopher, he gained his "titles of honour,"—an illuminative examen of his works, a profound developement of their genius, would prove acceptable to the studious and the curious. But, instead of this, Mr. Johnson, perversely enough, we think, subordinates the man of literature to the politician, and thus neglects to place his hero's statue on a pedestal, in vain attempts to steady it on a sandbank.

Selden, independent of his retiring or timid character, was too much of a Pythagorean for a great public leader. Wisdom taught him to see the errors on both sides, and to choose the middle path, on which, being so nice a line, the multitude could no more stand than on Mohammed's bridge, a hair broad, over the gulf of destruction. He could not lead where they could not follow. Scarce had two streams of Roundhead and Cavalier blood been mingled, when he sank into all the insignificance of a conciliator. His section dwindled down to a knot of long faces, which could hardly venture to groan apart, without daring to raise a voice between the combatants. party in troubled times is the weakest, and the maddest preternaturally strong, like all lunatics. How the waters of knowledge are dashed with wormwood! How bitter that Selden would feel himself paralyzed by his foresight of the evils attendant on extremes, and behold men, free from the shackles of reason, preserve the native impulse of their tempers! He could barely keep his own feet, while fanatics could drag a whole people down the precipice of revolution, as de-mons a herd of swine into the raging sea! What was this but wisdom putting the strait-waistcoat on herself, and giving the keeper's whip to frenzy, left without even a handcuff? If the system of self-restraint bind down our energy thus, it is a lion in a net, who amidst such complication, has not the power of a spider outside. Surely a conscience sensitive to right and wrong, should not enfeeble us before the callous, till they become our tyrants. Yet, that it does, the philosophic poet declares-

Thus conscience doth make cowards of us all, And thus the native hue of resolution Is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought.

The terrible profound of truth opened by these lines! Who that deeply contemplates the path he would follow, but beholds amid the visible darkness, widening as he endeavours to pierce it, a thousand phantoms, which point with hi-deous laughter to the stumbling-blocks, the graves, and gulfs before him, until he stops in dismay at so many dangers, and feels himself shaken, like old age, by a palsy of the mind? Nothing so fatal to action as over-reflection; the most intellectually daring of all men had perhaps found some breakwater of this kind to his stream of life, when he added, in his murmuring soliloquy-

And enterprises of great pith and moment,
With this regard, their currents turn awry,
And lose the name of action!

It is probably often the highest wisdom not to be wise; but to plunge blindfold and headlong among the shoal of fools down the cataracts of existence, when you cannot see through the mists that rise from the chasm beneath. We might say-Utile, as well as Dulce,-est desipere in loco. But philosophers will do anything rather than allow there is ever a rationality in unreason. Not that we would have had Selden confound himself with the furious demagogues of his period, but throw himself and his followers into as decided a line of action as they did, with as little thought of the consequences. Setting out from good principles, and directed by good objects, the philosophic party, acting with equal resolution, had triumphed over the phrenetical, as sure as that three exceeds one. It is true, Selden died tranquilly in his bed, but his country was sacrificed. We do not deny there are occasions when timidity is safety: the general proposition, however, stands good, that to totter on the brink of destruction is the surest way to fall in.

Although his public conduct, or, at least, frequent irresolution therein, may give him small right to be considered a political hero, his spirit of patriotism burnt with a flame pure and unex-

tinguishable to the last. At his time, indeed, this noble fire sprang upward from many a hearth, as well as the great altar of England, with a brightness and a loftiness far beyond any that has illuminated the kingdom either before or since. Magna Charta was the windfall of stormy baronial ambition; the Revolution a nopopery panic; -while the contest under Charles originated in a generous enthusiasm for right, and deserves, as well as that of antiquity, to be named the Sacred War. For national feeling now-a-days, it is fervid and rife enough, because most persons see that the interests of the country are bound up with their own. But this feeling has none of the old romantic and refined notions annexed to it: the word patriotism would be preposterous as applied to it, and we only call patriot now by way of ridicule and mock-heroic compliment. At present, national feeling is only an enlarged selfishness, vulgar but very sensible,-an inspiration of arithmetic, but not the less enthusiastically cherished because generated in the cold-blooded rapture of accountants. How unlike this rule-of-three patriotism (if the country gain so much, what shall we?) to that sublime Amor Patria which a Milton or Selden breathed, like the sun's benignant influence, over the land! Well may it be exclaimed, in Miltonic rhyme-

Mitton! thou shouldst be living at this hour: England hath need of thee; she is a feu Of stagnant waters; altar, sword, and pron, Fireside, the heroic wealth of hall and bower, Have forfeited their ancient English dower Of inward happiness. We are selfish men!

And well might Selden be invoked as loudly, for England hath need of more hands than one to reclaim her from the "fen" that hath overrun

List of New Books.—The Poetical Romances of Tristan, in French, Anglo Norman, and Greek, by F. Michel, 2 volspost 8vo. 39s.—The Captivity, by Oliver Goldsmith, fc. 8vo. 1s. swd.—G. Herbert's Remains, &c. 2 vols, fc. 8vo. 10s.—Gathercole's Letters to a Dissenting Minister, 18mo. new edit. 4s. 6d.—The Palpit, Vol. XXVII. 7s. 6d.—Letter Writing, by Charlotte Elizabeth. 2nd edit. 37mo. 1s. cl—Biddaiph's Sermons, 2nd series, 12mo. 3s.—The Mother's Practical Guide, by Mrs. J. Bakwell, 12mo. 3s.—Sequel to Heinrich Stilling, 12mo. 3s.—Ure's Philosophy of Manufactures, 2nd edit. post 8vo. 10s. 6d.—Davis's Chiuese, 2 vols. post 8vo. 21s.—Howel's Fifty-two Sermons, from Notes, by H. H. White, 8vo. 12s.—Page's Ireland and its Evils, 8vo. 4s.—The Althorp Picture Gallery, fc. 8vo. 5s.—Greenwood's History of the Germans, (Barbarie Prind.), 4to. 2d. 12s. 6d. bds.—Claims of the Landed Interests to Legislative Protection Considered, by William Blacker. 8vo 7s.—Compbeare's Theological Lectures, 12mo. 8s.—Rec dand Legislative Protection Considered, by William Blacker, 8xo 7.8.—Conybeare's Theological Lectures, 12mo 8.8.—Eved and Matheson's Visit to the American Churches, 4nd dit, 2 vols. 6. 10s. 6d.—Edinburgh to sbinet Library, Vol. XIX. (being Historical and Descriptive Account of China, V.1, 11, 5s.—Roberts's Catechism of Elocution, 18mo, 9d. swd.—Hal-lard's French Grammar, 12mo, new edit, 4s. bd. Douville's Speaking French Grammar, 12mo, 19d. 2 vol. 2 lard's French Grammar, 12mo, new edit. 4s. bd. Douville's Speaking French Grammar, new edit 7s. 6d.; Kev to ditto, new edit 3s. 6d.; Kev to ditto, new edit. 3s. 6d.—The Evangelical R. mbler, new edit. 2 vols. 6c. 8vo. 12s.—Sketches of Germany and the Germans, with a glance at Poland, Hongary, and Switzerland, in 18st-5-6, with maps and various illustrations, 2 vols. 8vo. 24s.—Exercises on Greek Iambic Verse, &c. by the Rev. B. W. Beatson, 12mo. 2s. 6d.—Narative of a Journey to the Zoolu Country in South Africa, by Captain Allen F. Gardiner, R. N. Svo. 29s.—Latham's Lectures on Clinical Medicine, 12mo. 6s. 6d.—Heath's Gallery of British Eneravines, naval 8vo. plates, 24s.; proofs. 34s. 6d. ish Engravings, royal 8vo. plates, 21s.; proofs, 31s. 6d

## OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP ON LITERATURE AND ART.

THE announcements of the week are not important A Summer in Spain, being the Narrative of a Tour made in the course of last year; and ' Recollections of an Artillery Officer, by Mr. Benson Hill, are all, we think, worth recording. From Denmark, however, we hear of works in progress that have "speculation in them." The Royal Society of Northern Antiquities, at Copenhagen, have announced their intention of publishing, by subscription, 'Antiquitates Britannica et Hibernica;' or a collection of accounts elucidating the early history of Great Britain and Ireland, extracted from ancient Icelandic and Scandinavian MSS.; and Antiquitates Americanae; or a collection of the accounts extant in ancient Icelandic and other Scandinavian MSS., relative to voyages of discovery to North America, made by the Scandinavians in the 10th and following centuries. It is observed, in reference to the

latter work, that " the intelligence which our ancient literary monuments embody respecting the discovery of America by the Scandinavians, and their voyages thither at a period long antecedent to the era of Columbus, has not hitherto received that serious consideration which it merits, it occurring but to few to look to the North of Europe for information on that head. It is, however, unquestionable that these remains comprise testimony, the most authentic and irrefragable, to the fact, that North America was actually discovered by the Northmen towards the close of the 10th century, visited by them repeatedly during the 11th and 12th (some of them even settling there as colonists), rediscovered towards the close of the 13th, and again repeatedly resorted to in the course of the 14th. What serves in no small degree to enhance the value of the ancient writings, is the great apparent probability, amounting indeed almost to certainty, that it was a knowledge of these facts that prompted the memomorable expedition of Columbus himself which terminated in his discovery of the New World-for it is a well authenticated fact, that the great navigator visited Iceland in the year 1477, on which occasion he could scarcely fail to obtain some information from its inhabitants, particularly its clerical functionaries, with whom, according to the custom of the times, he probably conversed in Latin, respecting the voyages of their ancestors to those regions.

We have great pleasure in announcing, that Dr. Smith has returned to Cape Town. He arrived there the first week in February, accompanied by two Zula chiefs, councillors of the formidable Motsiliketsi, from whom Dr. Smith obtained assurances of friendship to the colony. As the alliance of this chief opens the road for a long way into the interior, it was in contemplation at Cape Town to sell a part of the large collection of natural curiosities, brought back by Dr. Smith, in order to raise a fund for the prosecution of discovery, north of Motsiliketsi's country. The Caffer Christian Chief, Tzatzo, is expected to arrive here shortly with Dr. Philip, to appeal, on behalf of his countrymen, to the friends of the Mis-

sionaries.

The papers of the day (Friday) contain the report of a coroner's inquest on poor Seymour, the caricaturist, who, it appears, with all his relish for, and quick perception of the humorous, was subject to dreadful fits of melancholy and despondency, in one of which he committed suicide—the contrast is strange, but not inexplicable, nor, indeed, so strange es it may appear, as literary biography offers abundant proof. Mr. Seymour was, undoubtedly, a man of considerable talent-at his outset there was too much of mannerism in his design, and that manner was not original :- but latterly, especially in his illustrations of 'The Book of Christmas,' and 'The Library of Fiction,' he gave good promise of becoming a distinguished artist.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, PALL MALL.

The Gallery for the Exhibition and Sale of the Works of BRITISH ARTISTS is (pen daily from in the Morning till 5 in the Evening.—Admission, 12.; Catalogue, 12.

WILLIA "PARNARD, Keeper.

The THIRTY-SECOND ANN. AL EXAMITION of the SO-CIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS, at their Gal-lery, Pail Mall East, will Open on MONDAY next, 25th inst. Open each day from Nine till Dusk.—Admittance, Is., Cata-togue, 6d. HILLS, Secretary.

LAWRENCE GALLERY.

The SEVENTH EXHIBITION of Drawings, consisting of the Works of Zucchero, Fra Bartolomeo, Polidoro, and A. del Sarto, is Now 0928. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6.† Itian and Albert Durer, will be opened immediately after the closing of the present Exhibition, which will take place at the end of the month, 112, St. Martin 3-lane.

PANORAMA, LEICESTER SQUARE,
Just Opened. a splendid View of LIMA, the City of Kings at
Capital of Peru, founded by Pizarro, comprising all its princip
Buildings, and displaying all the magnificent Scenery that as
rounds it. —"This Picture worthly adds another to a series
exhibition to unaways attractive." Alterness...—The favouri
View of ANCIENT THEBUS continues open.

DIORAMA, REGENT'S PARK.

JUST OPEN, TWO PICTURES, nainted by Le Cheveller Bouton. The Subjects are, the VILLACH LACKA, IN COLOUR. The Subjects are, the VILLACH LACKA, IN COLOUR. The Subjects are, the VILLACH LACKA, IN COLOUR. It is a subject are, the VILLACH LACKA, IN COLOUR. It is a subject are the VILLACH LACKA, IN COLOUR. It is a subject as the village of the subject and the s

## SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.

April 14.—The Rev. G. Beresford, in the chair.
Mr. Hamilton read some observations on a note, contained in page 9 of the 5th vol. of Stuart's Athens, relating to a cameo gem, which had been purchased, ome years ago, as an antique, by the late R. P. Knight, Esq.; but which was afterwards claimed as his own work, by Mr. B. Pistrucci, at present chief medallist at the royal mint. The purport of Mr. Hamilton's paper was to remove any impression which the tenour of this note would create on the mind of an uninformed reader, that Mr. Pistrucci was in any manner concerned in the mistake which the learned antiquary had made in this affair; and, at the same time, to record his dissent from the opi-nion of the writer of the note, that there was no necessity for the encouragement of foreign artists in Great Britain, because "the recent productions of our own countrymen prove the British school of fine arts to have arrived at as high a degree of perfection, as that of any age or country." It is but too evident, Mr. H. observed, that a notion of this kind, whether in reference to the fine arts or to literature, is calculated to give us a false estimate of our attainments, and, by nourishing a conceit that we have nothing to learn from others, to make us retrograde in the road in which we are justly desirous of going forward.

Mr. Hamilton likewise read an excellent abstract of M. Letronne's learned work, published at Paris early in the present year, 'On Historic Mural Painting, in the decoration of Temples and other Public and Private Edifices, among the Greeks and Ro-

### SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

THE more important communications to the Society since our last report (p. 147), have been, from H. W. Diamond, Esq. some early specimens of mezzotinto engraving, which prove, by date, that Prince Rupert was not the inventor of that art, as popularly believed; among them was a portrait of the Queen of France, ascribed "W. Hondthurst pinxit, L. a Siegen, inventor, fecit anno 1643." A paper, by the Rev. J. B. Deane, with illustrative drawings, on some golden ornaments found at the Celtic temple at Quentin, near St. Brieuc. It apeared that some persons had conceived the idea that treasure was concealed there; and their search, strangely enough, was rewarded by the discovery of these ancient gold ornaments, of the intrinsic value of more than 1,0001. An essay, by the Rev. John Webb, on the habits and manners of the people, and of the political connexions of the principal families, in the county of Hereford, about the time of the Civil War. Another, by Lord Mahon, on the lost books of Tacitus: and a communication by Sir Francis Palgrave, which we shall give entire.

Sir Francis observed, that amongst the documents relating to Scotland, of the reign of Edward I., Rymer has printed one (new edition, Vol. I. p. 994) to which he gives the following title: 'Instrumentum continens nomina plurimorum Nobilium Scotiæ fautorum Roberti de Brus qui missi sunt ad diversa castra in Angliam,' including, amongst the mandates for the custody of other prisoners, the well known order directing the confinement of the Countess of Buchan in a cage at Berwick, and which instrument is quoted by Rymer as being in this repository. He could not, however, find amongst the muniments any one such instrument; but, instead thereof, there are three distinct documents, apparently orders made by the King in Council, and in which the several directions for the modes of disposing of these captives were, from time to time, varied and altered, and in a manner highly deserving of attention. The docu-ment given by Rymer is, in fact, an instrument framed by him by a consolidation of these orders, not distinguishing where one begins and another ends; and in this process he has concealed the most remarkable features, namely, the modifications which the orders sustained in their different stages. The documents are, it appears, all intended for publica-tion by His Majesty's Commissioners on the Public Records, in the volume which is to contain the credited Scottish documents. In the mean while, Sir Francis submitted to the Society a summary of some of the particulars which they disclose.

"Alain, who was Earl of Menteum, was most mitted to the custody of Sir Johan de Hastings, who direction was subsequently varied, by giving Sir John the power to confine the "late Earl" at Bergaveny or elsewhere.

The Earl of Strathern, " when he shall have surrendered to the King," is to be placed in custody in the keep of Rochester Castle, but he does not ap-

pear to have surrendered.

The name of John Earl of Athol was first entered upon the order as a memorandum, without any directions; the course to be adopted with respect to him was probably not settled. Some time afterwards, as appears by the variations both in the colour of the ink and the character of the handwriting, he is conducted to London by Sir Hugh le Despenser. With respect to David, the son and heir of him who was Earl of Athol, the order first made does not sustain any further variations; he was to be kept in

safe custody in England by the Earl of Gloucester.

The orders respecting "Donald the Son of the Earl of Mar," sustained several modifications before the plan of his captivity was finally settled. By the first order he was to be delivered to the Bishop of Chester, and by him conveyed to the castle of Bristol, and the Bishop was to provide a valet, wary and trusty, "avisez et seur." who was to wait upon Donald as his master and companion, " que entende au dit Dovenald come a son maistre et compagnion." By a second order the Bishop of Chester is exonerated from his trust, and Donald, who on this second order is styled "the child who is heir of Mar," is placed under the immediate custody and charge of the Constable of the Castle of Bristol, with liberty to go freely about the castle. A further extension of liberty is then granted by a third order, permitting the young prisoner to walk on the garden and elsewhere within the close of the castle, and that he shall not be put in irons; an alteration which evidently implies, that under the first, or original order, he would, as a matter of course, have been thus restrained; but, upon further consideration, it appeared advisable to prevent this extraordinary indulgence of personal freedom from being abused, or becoming a precedent; and to the words "mais qu'il soit hors de fers," they added, at a subsequent period, as appears by the variation in the colour of the ink, "tant come il soit de si tendre age,"\_so long as he shall be of such tender age; virtually directing that the permission by which he was relieved from gyves and fetters, was not to be continued if he should be detained in custody after he came to man's

With respect to Margaret, the daughter of Robert Bruce, the first order directed her to be treated with great severity. She was to be sent to the Tower of London, and there kept in close confinement in a cage. "Margerie la fille Robert de Brus soit envee a la Tour de Londres pour estre mise ilueques en kage, et que ele ne parle a nul homme ne nul homme a luy fors ceux que le Conestable de la Tour assignera pour luy garder." But this extreme rigour excited some compunction, and the order being cancelled, another order was made that she should be kept in England under the safe custody of Sir Henry Percy.

It is, in some respects, satisfactory to observe, that all the alterations which the orders sustained are in diminution of the rigour attending the incarceration

of these illustrious captives.

Whilst on the subject of Rymer, (Sir Francis continued,) it may not be unimportant to notice a singular error in his transcript of the document dated 9 July, 1297, by which Robert Bruce, the Stewart of Scotland, and his brother, Sir Alexander Lindsey, and Sir William Douglas, submitted to Edward, and promised to make amends for their resistance to his authority. As printed by Rymer (Federa, N. ED. Vol. I. p. 808), it ends with this clause "escrit a Sire Williame," and from which Lord Hales and others have drawn the very plausible inference that the instrument was transmitted to Sir William Wallace for the purpose of enabling him to avail himself of the same terms. But, as in other cases, the carelessness or ignorance of a transcriber has furnished the foundation for an historical theory. The reading of the original is "escrit a Irewin," i. e. at Irwin; but a blur before the I having been mistaken for an S, and the parallel strokes of the i and the n, in the

concluding syllable, having been mistaken for an m Rymer, or his transcriber, read the word as Sire Wm., which Wm. having been extended by Rymer into the word William, produced the reading of the printed Fædera, and the opinions of the historians who have followed a text which they were fully justified in considering as correct and authentic.

### STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

April 18. Right Hon, Holt Mackenzie, V.P., in the chair.

fe fe

A paper, by Mr. Preston, on the Statistics of the Kingdom of Saxony, was first read. The author observed, that, considering the scantiness of existing documents connected with our domestic statistics, which bear the stamp of authenticity, and the difficulty of obtaining original matter to supply this admitted want, there is, perhaps, no branch of statistical inquiry to which, as a secondary object, the attention of the Society can with greater propriety or advantage be directed than the collection of facts from a careful digest of foreign publications.

The administrative division of the Saxon domiions consists of four great circles, the localities of which are Dresden, Leipzig, Zwickau, and Bautzen,

otherwise Budissin.

The total population of the kingdom amounted, on the 3rd July, 1832, to 1,558,153 souls (756,554 males, 801,599 females), and to the 1st December, 1834, to 1,595,668 souls (775,244 males, 820,424 The increase between the two periods females). was thus 37,515 individuals, being in the ratio of nearly 24 per cent., or 1 per cent. per annum, which, according to the usual theory of calculation, would represent a doubling in 69% years.

The total superficial extent of the kingdom is 271.676 Cerman square miles, which gives, for the whole population, an average of 5,873 individuals to each square mile; but, exclusive of the military and their families, the proportion is reduced to 5,817 per

The following Table shows the division of the Territory, and Population, by Circles.

Circles.	German Square Miles.	No. of Towns.	No. of Villages, &c.	No. of Houses, &c.	No. of Males.	No. of Females.	Total Po-
Dresden	78,783	32	998	53,407	198,012	213,852	411,864
Leipzig	63,139	38	1,001	46,100	174,953	186,298	361,251
Zwickau	84,227	58	873	66.656	265,576	284,235	549,811
Bautzen	45,527	13	629	42,950	123,779	133,665	257,444
Military	and thei	r Pan	illes		12,924	2,374	15,298
Totals	271,676	141	3,501	209,122	775,244	620,424	1,595,668

Of the 209,122 houses, &c., 5,314 are uninhabited.

Of the towns there are 4 with and above 10,000 inhabitants each; 26, 4,000; 92, 1,000; and 19 with less than 1,000. Of the villages and hamlets there are 152 with and above 1,000 inhabitants each;

2,494, 100; and 855 with less than 100. For the whole kingdom, the average proportion of the inhabitants of towns to the rural population, is as 1,000 to 2,108; and the average proportion of males to females is as 1,000 to 1,058.

The division of the Population by nature of ages, may be thus summarily stated.

Ages.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
From 1 day to 6 years old	122,788	124,222	247,010	
From 6 to 14 years	138,385	139,831	278,216	
- 14 to 19	78,207	82,386	160,593	
- 19 to 21	23,378	28,873	52,251	
- 21 to 30	113,020	124,457	237,477	
- 30 to 40	104,413	110,192	214,605	
- 40 to 50	78,225	87,780	166,005	
- 50 to 60	63,345	67,555	130,900	
- 60 to 70	38.002	39,421	77,423	
- 70 to 80	13,153	13,394	26,547	
- 80 to 90	2,256	2,239	4,495	
Above 90	72	74	146	
Totale	775 914	690 494	1 505 668	

It is seen from the above, that the children under 14 years of age form nearly one-third of the entire

+ This is true enough, and therefore the Statistical Society was established. But why is it true, after the Society has been two years or more in existence?—Ed.

† Nearly 4,999 English square miles, the German geographical mile equalling 4.40 English miles. Hence, the average number of inhabitants, to the English square mile, is about 319.

A further division shows that the number of A further division snows that the Haustenbelders is 351,723

Married Couples, 277,812

Married Persons living separate

41,213

Unmarried Persons. { Females, 536,850 } 1,028,831

Total ..... 1,595,668

In the above number of unmarried persons are included those both widowed and divorced—the former amounting to 90,063 (25,895 males, 64,168 females), and the latter to 3,790 (1,422 males, and 2,368 females).

A comparison of the widowed persons in regard to sex, shows, on an average for every 100 persons,

only 29 widowers to 71 widows!

With reference to religious persuasions, the division of the population is, for every 100,000 individuals, 98,091 Lutherans; 101 Reformists; 1749 Catholics; 6 Greek Church; 53 Jewish persuasion.

The total number of the deaf and dumb is 1010; and of the blind, 324. The proportion borne by the former to the entire population, is thus, 1 in 1,579 individuals (in 1832 it was 1 in 1,334), and by the latter, it is 1 in 4,924 (in 1832, 1 in 3,675),

showing, in both cases, a very great improvement.

Mr. Preston next proceeded to give a variety of elaborate tabular statements of the births, deaths, and marriages, for several successive years. tables showed the total annual number of births in the different circles, distinguishing the legitimate, illegitimate, twins, triplicates, and still-born, and also a further division of the same by months. The deaths were similarly divided by months, and again by nature of ages.

We shall give a summary of the last table as of general interest.

Deaths by division of Ages

Ages.	1832.	1833.	1834.	Average		
Still-born	2,776	2,771	2,996	2,848		
Under I year	14,892	16,738	18,210	16,613		
From 1 to 6 years	6,400	6,690	6,470	6,520		
- 6 to 14	2,198	2,148	1,501	1,949		
- 14 to 20	695	805	919	806		
- 20 to 30	1,708	2,253	2,080	2,014		
- 30 to 40	2,018	2,172	2,139	2,110		
- 40 to 50	2,493	2,628	2,441	2.521		
- 50 to 60	3,687	3,890	3,643	3,740		
- 60 to 70	5,172	5,009	4,804	4,995		
- 70 to 80	3,798	3,684	3,664	3,715		
- 80 to 90	1,382	1,245	1,295	1,307		
Above 90	79	70	79	76		
Totals	47.298	50,103	50.241	49,214		

It appears, from an examination of the Tables, that in 1834 the births exceeded the deaths by 13,122 individuals ;-that

In 1832 the Male children born exceeded the Female by 1,919 In 1833 

Giving an Annual Average, of ...... 1,943 With reference to this point, the author quoted M. Quetelet, where he states, "It is a fact, very remarkable, and observed for a long time past, although the real causes of it are as yet unknown, that there are born annually a greater number of male than female children." It is further stated, on an average for the whole of Europe, that there are 106 male for every 100 female children.

The average proportion of illegitimate to legiti-mate births for the whole kingdom was stated to be as 1 in 6.7 !

In regard to deaths, the average proportion, on comparison with the entire population, was some-

thing more than 3 per cent. With reference to age, it will be seen, that the greatest mortality occurred among children under 1 year old. The greatest monthly mortality for both sexes was in March, and the least in November.

Having thus far treated (with a degree of detail impossible to be rendered in our columns) on the various subjects above enumerated, Mr. Preston proceeded to give some account of the Educational Sta-tistics of Saxony, from returns to the end of the year 1833.

There are two royal provincial schools (Meissen and Grimma), with 23 professors and masters, and 248 pupils; 12 gymnasia and other superior schools, having 124 teachers, and 1,613 scholars; and 2,039 national schools (Volkschulen), with 2,695 teachers, and 274,305 pupils, the sexes being about equal. Besides these there were, in Dresden, in 1831, 48 private schools, frequented by 3,413 pupils; and in 1834, 1,182.

Leipzig, 10 private schools, with 984 pupils, making a total of 58 private schools, and 4,397 pupils. The Normal schools (Schullehrer-seminarian), were 7 in number, with 11 teachers, and 223 students.

In regard to the national schools, the average number of pupils to one teacher is 102, and to each school 134.

The number of children frequenting the national schools is shown by the table to be 274,305, whereas the proportion of children, between the ages of 6 and 14 years, according to the population returns to July 1832 was only 273,535, so that there were 770 children attending the schools above the number of those whose ages were between 6 and 14 years. If we add to these the children frequenting the private schools as before stated, the aggregate, in round numbers, is 5,200. Taking into consideration, that between the 3rd July, 1832, and the end of 1833, there were, according to the general Church registers, 21,000 more children born than died, and, making allowance for the bulk of children under six years of age, we may reasonably estimate the increased number of children frequenting school at between 2,500 and 3,000, and that it consisted, for the most part, of children above the age of 14

A comparison of the whole number of persons receiving education, with the entire population, shows the average proportion of the former to the latter to be about 1 in 6, or 178 in every 1,000 individuals; and this is about the average ratio for the whole of Germany.

Mr. Preston then drew some interesting comparisons with reference to education in some others of the German States, but which, as they are not new to our readers, we shall pass over. We cannot, however, omit the following statement in regard to France, which was given on the authority of the Minister of Commerce, in his report on the Budget for 1837.

France-Number of Male Children frequenting the

Primary Schools. Secondary Schools, (exclusive of Ecclesiastical).

Latinists

Superior Instruction.

Faculty of Law. Faculty of Medicine. Pupils. Years. Pupils.
4,467 1833 2,013
4,897 1831 2,446
5,137 1835 2,675

Parally of Theolog

The returns for the Faculty of Theology are not

The paper concluded with some observations respecting education and crime, considered with reference to each other, but which, as the respective returns did not extend beyond a single year, furnish no very satisfactory result, although, upon the whole, the balance was shown to be in favour of those districts where education is the most extended. This tends still further to establish the fact, proved by Mr. Porter in his able paper on Crime and Educa-tion (see Report, p. 16), that the returns for a single year are as much or as little to be relied on on one side of the question as the other.

The whole number of indictments for 1832, (the only year available,) for various offences more or less grave, was 4,177, and the number of offenders 7,492, of whom 1,731 were accomplices. Of the whole number, 3,844, or more than one-half, were subjected to various degrees of punishment, 1,065 were acquitted, and the rest had either died or escaped, or remained in custody at the end of the year. An inspection of the table showed that the greater number of offences were committed by individuals between the ages of 21 and 40 years of age; and in regard to sex, that the proportion of male to female offenders was about two-thirds.

On the 1st of January, 1832, the various prisons nd houses of correction contained 1,117 prisoners, confined for periods of detention, varying from four to ten years. On the 1st of January, 1833, they contained 1,074 prisoners, and on the 1st of January,

Lastly, in regard to violent deaths occasioned by suicide and accident, the numbers were as under

Years.		S	aicid	les.		Accidental Deaths.					
lears.	Male	. F	emal	es.	Total.	Males	. 1	emal	es.	Total.	
1832	55		10		65	67		16		83	
1833	87		25		112	100		35		135	
Incr. in 1833	32		15		47	33		. 19		52	

The reading of the following paper, 'On Monts-

de-Pietc, prepared by Mr. Rawson, terminated the business of the evening.

As the question of the expediency of establishing institutions in Ireland, similar to those existing in France and other parts of the continent, under the title of Monts-de-Piété, has been recently before the Irish public; the author thought that it might not be uninteresting to the members of the Statistical Society in general, nor unprofitable to those whose connexion with Ireland may lead them to take a part in discussions upon the advantages of such establishments, to receive a brief account of their introduction on the continent, and of the progress and present extent of their operations in France.

Monti-di-Pietà were originally established in Italy, and were founded for strictly charitable and pious objects, as was intended to be pointed out in the title given to them. They were supported by the donations of the benevolent, and at first no interest was required for the sums lent; but in 1521, Pope , with the view of promoting their extension, Leo X allowed interest to be paid upon the sums advanced for their support. It was not, however, until two centuries and a half afterwards, that an institution of the same nature was founded in France, the first being established in Paris in 1777. By letters patent passed in that year, it was placed under the govern-ment of the Lieutenant General of Police, and four of the Directors of the General Hospital at Paris, with which it was incorporated. A Director General was appointed to conduct its management, its finances being placed under the controll of four counsellors of Parliament, and a nominee of the Procureur Général. After some difficulty, the funds required for the support of the institution, about 10 millions of francs, were at length raised upon bills paying 6 per cent., and the simple acknowledgment of the Director General; and it continued to flourish with much success, until overwhelmed by the events of 1789, which destroyed its means of support. 1797 it was again restored, the necessary funds being raised by the creation of 1000 debentures of 10,000 each, subdivided into shares of 2000fr. The share-holders were entitled to half the profits of the institution, the other half being applied to the use of the

In 1804 a law was passed, enacting that no establishment for lending money upon pledges should be founded, except for the benefit of the poor, and by the authority of the government. Since that period similar institutions have been established in most of the principal cities of France.

The following are the terms upon which the business of the Paris establishment is at present conducted. Loans are made upon the deposit of such goods as can be preserved, to the amount of twothirds of their estimated value, but on articles of gold and silver, four-fifths of the value is advanced. No loan is made for less than three francs. The average sum advanced on each deposit in 1833, was 17f. 93c. The advances are made for a year, but the borrower may renew the engagement, and the number of articles so renewed in that year was 178,913, or about one-sixth of the number pledged, the amount advanced upon them being 4,494,451fr., or nearly one-fourth of the whole amount lent. The present rate of interest is 1 per cent. per month, or 12 per cent. per annum. The Paris establishment has generally from 600,000 to 650,000 articles in its possession, which, at the lowest average of 18fr. upon each article, would exhibit a constantly outstanding capital of about 11,000,000fr. or 440,000l. It is probable however, that it does not amount to less than half a million sterling. As the expense of management is from 60 to 65c. for each article, it follows that a loan of three francs does not defray the expenses which it occasions, and hence the profits are wholly derived from the loans that exceed five francs. The annual profits of the institution amount on an average to 155,000fr., but it is stated to possess an additional income of 125,000 fr. arising from other

As before stated, the average amount advanced on each article at Paris (in 1833) was nearly 18 francs, or 15s. At Strasbourg it was 4s. 10d.; at Rouen 8s. 1d.; while, on the other hand, at Marseilles it amounted to 17s. 1d., and at Nismes to 19s. 8d. The greatness of these differences suggested to the author the belief, that the systems followed in the several establishments are not the same, which he considered to be corroborated by the fact, that the annual number of deposits is much greater in the two places where the average is low, than can be accounted for by any difference of population or other

Mr. Rawson appended to his paper an abstract of ome tables, derived from the elaborate volume published in 1835, by the French Minister of Commerce, under the title of 'Documents Statistiques sur la France.

He concluded, by observing that the tables above referred to, extending as they do over a considerable number of years, exhibit two facts worthy of remark: -1st. That the average value of each deposit has increased in some towns, and decreased in others; having fallen, for instance, at Bordeaux, in twenty years, from 18fr. to 13fr.; whilst at Marseilles, in about the same period, it has risen from 16fr. 50c. to 20fr. 50c. The other is the evidence which they afford of the condition of the industrious classes. For example, in Paris the number of pledges entered in the year 1831, beyond the average of the three preceding years, was 100,000; the sum advanced upon them being two millions and a half of francs, or 100,000%; whilst the increase of the number upon which advances were renewed was 140,000, or nearly 80 per cent. upon the preceding year, and the increase was 3,650,000 fr., or an increase of 82 per cent. +

Monts-de-Piété are numerous in Belgium, and are stated to exist in Brussels, Antwerp, and most of the chief towns of that kingdom.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK. MEETINGS FOR THE ENGINEER P.M., F.M.
Society of Antiquaries (Anniversary) Two, F.M.
Westminster Medical Society ... Eight.
Artists' Conversarione ... Eight.
Geographical ... Nine.
Institute of British Architects ... Eight.
Medical and Chirurgical Society ... p. Eight.
Civil Engineers ... Eight. Racing Francis Society ... ap Eight.

Antiquarian Society ... Eight.
Society of Literature (Anniversury) Four.

Faid Royal Institution ... ap. Eight.
Zoological Society (Anniversary)... One.

## FINE ARTS

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

But few works have been published since our last notice, but they are of a high order. First comes\_ May-Day in the Time of Queen Elizabeth, engraved by J. H. Watt, a work every way worthy of the fame and beauty of the original picture. It is long since we have seen an engraving on which the artist appeared to have laboured with such exclusive reference to fame rather than profit; there is no trace throughout of what may be emphatically called the manufacture school: skill and labour are visible in every part, and the result is such as might be anticipated\_the general effect admirable, and yet the curious and the admiring may look into the details without fear of disappointment. The picture, too, is delightful: the painter has caught the joyous spirit of the scene; it is truly "May-Day," when England was "Merry England," when the Queen and her courtiers, when all from the highest to the humblest joined, like one family, in the festivities of the season with Friar Tuck, and Maid Marian, and the Morris Dancers, and when "the hobby horses" were not "forgot." The fresh air and sunlight breathe over all their sweetest influences; the groups scattered here and there are lit up with good-humour: there

is one laughing beauty on the hill-side, "as full of spirits as the month of May," and whose very look beaming with "quips, and cranks, and wreathed smiles;" but the figure in the foreground is perfect : she is " The Lady-May"\_she may listen for a moment to the Malvolio coxcomb.

Lisping for wantonnesse, To make his English swete upon his tonge,

but could be wedded to no other than "The May" himself, described to us as "a youth with a lovely countenance, clothed in a robe of white and green, embroidered with daffodils, hawthorns, and blue-bottles, his head adorned with a garland of white and damask roses; in one hand holding a lute, and on the fore-finger of the other a nightingale."

Another fine work, just published, is, The Spanish Contrabandista, engraved by C. Turner, after a well-known picture by J. H. Lewis. No artist, within our recollection, has caught the tone of the rich southern clime, or the spirit of its people, so well as Mr. Lewis; his Spanish scenes are admirable: they are "redolent of the sweet South"-they are sunshine all over. The work before us is a fine specimen to refer to, and we can recommend it with an easy conscience.

Here, too, is the first number of a work, Plans, Elevations, and Sections of the Alhambra, from drawings by the late M. Jules Goury and Owen Jones, Architects, which deserves to rank among the most splendid of our architectural and illustrated volumes It is to be published in numbers, each number to contain five plates, two of which will be Elevations or Sections of the building, and the remaining three Details, printed in colours, in exact imitation of the original drawings. If completed with the elaborate care, skill, and beauty, which characterize this first number, the work cannot fail to be pre-eminently

Harding's Sketches at Home and Abroad, is another capital work, containing some sixty or more of the very choicest sketches, made by an artist whose portfolio has long been the admiration of all beholders. To those who have travelled, it will be a very treasure-house of delight. Here Northern Italy yields up its architectural glories and its lake scenery...Venice its palaces\_the Tyrol its romantic valleys and villages, with offerings from Trent and Roveredothe Rhenish cities their picturesque beauty-and France and England their greenest spots of remembrance.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

KING'S THEATRE.

This Evening (last time this season), Ressini's Opera semi-seria, LA GAZZA LADRA; with the Ballet of ZEPHIR BERGER.

DRURY LANE.

This Evening, THE CORSAIR; after which First Act of CHEVY CHASE; and THE MAID OF CASHMERE. On Monday, THE STRANGER; with the First Act of CHEVY CHASE; and THE JEWESS.

CHASE; and THE JEWESS.
Tuesday, HENRY IV.
Wednesday, MACBETH; with FRA DIAVOLO.
Thursday, THE NATIONAL GUARD; with WIDOW WIG-GINS; and THE TRAVELLERS.

KING's THEATRE .\_ ' Norma' was revived this day week, with Grisi as the high priestess of Irminsul; Lablache taking the trifling part of Oroveso, and a Signora Assandri making her début on an English stage in the part of Adalgisa. To criticize the composition of this opera is unnecessary, it having been written on M. Valebreque's principle of "Mu femme et quatre poupées;" in offering an account of it, therefore, it is sufficient to speak of the acting and singing of the prima donna. In both, Grisi did more than justify our highest expectations; if she was not equal to Pasta in majesty of demeanour-if some of her attitudes were angular, and some of her motions a little too much hurried for the dignity which tragedy demands, she approached nearer to her predecessor than any other actress of the day could dowith the superior advantage, a voice altogether unrivalled, in force, clearness, and abandon of execution. Nothing could exceed her delivery of the trio in the finale of the first act, or the alternate energy and delicacy with which she gave the duo in the second, 'Si, fino ore estreme'; in both she was most satisfactorily supported by the new seconda donna, who, to an agreeable person, and a young, fresh voice, musical, if not powerful, unites a correctness of style, and a carefulness of performance, which make her a most

valuable acquisition to the present corps. Signor Winter did his best in the part of Pollio; but to personate a Roman character is beyond his gifts and graces. Lablache, it is needless to say, is always magnificent and impressive. The opera was repeated on Tuesday, with increased effect, by command of Her Majesty. On both nights the house was very

On Thursday evening, after ' Norma,' the divertissement of 'Zephir Berger' was revived, with Perrot (more airy than ever) and Carlotta Grisi vice Taglioni. Two third-rate danseuses also made their first pirouettes (and very redundant they were) before a London audience. The corps de ballet is now very strong, and we hope it will presently be efficiently employed on a grand scale.

### FESTIVAL AT EXETER HALL.

In our last, we expressed our satisfaction in the promise of this meeting, given at its first rehearsal on Thursday week; we have now to report on its performance. As a whole, it was, in the highest degree, creditable to the amateurs of the metropolis; and, if we do not go the length of some of our contempo-raries in declaring it to surpass all similar exhibitions within our experience, it is because, while we give all honour to pains, and patience, and skill, which have been so successfully exerted by all parties concerned, we do not expect impossibilities, or extol merits which can exist only in the imagination of the panegyrist. For instance, it would be idle to listen for the same body of tone from an equally numerous choir of amateurs, and professional chorus singers. The small and defective voices which, when trained and refined, suffice for half the amateur singers we hear, would never be thought worth employing in a case where natural gifts fetch a price. It is equally needless to enter into the question with respect to the orchestra; and having once said that both voices and instruments went admirably (to the utmost of their powers), we shall now turn to speak of the separate performances.

First Performance.—We need only enumerate the

pieces making up the miscellaneous act, with which the evening commenced. Mr. Attwood's best coronation anthem, 'I was glad,' was given in excellent style, to welcome H. R. H. the Duchess of Kent and the Princess Victoria. Mr. Horncastle sung 'Gentle airs,' with Lindley's accompaniment—his toujours rossignol cadence of course. After this, the glorious 'Sanctus,' and 'Benedictus,' from the 'Rethe Benedictus by Mrs. Bishop, Miss Masson, Messrs. Horncastle and Balfe;—the latter gentleman next sung Pergolesi's fine 'O Lord! have mercy upon me.' Hummel's noble graduale 'Quod anod in orbe' succeeded\_this was one of the richest choruses of the evening, though less forcible and massive than those by Handel. A short selection from 'The Creation' followed, in which Miss Rainforth distinguished herself in 'With verdure clad.' Mr. Machin, too, gave us great pleasure in the recitative and air, 'Now Heaven in fullest glory shone.'
This gentleman has all but worked the natural clumsiness out of his fine voice-with a little more practice he will stand in the topmost rank of our Oratorio singers. 'The Heavens are telling,' closed the act, Miss Bruce, Mr. Horncastle, and Mr. Machin taking the solo parts. After this, Mr. Adams extemporized upon the organ by way of intermezzo: his performance was received with unjust coldness. We question, indeed, if one out of twenty among the audience had adverted to it more than if so much time had been spent in tuning the instrument.

The oratorio of 'Solomon,' which, as far as concerns the choruses, was given entire, was the chief attraction of the evening. It is a fine work, though not ranking high among Handel's oratorios, and, unless we are greatly mistaken, it will hardly prove attractive in the present day, for more than an occasional hearing. "The giant" was, in 'Solomon,' neither fortunate in his subject nor in the rhymester to whom it was intrusted. The story offered him no decided feature such as the prodigies of 'Israel in Egypt,' or the warlike achievements of 'Judas Maccabæus,' upon which to base his choruses. The dedication of the Temple, it is true, opens the oratorio; but the worthy poetaster contrived most strangely to get rid of the scriptural sublimity of the dedicatory anthem, which offers magnificent scope

<sup>†</sup> May not this at once, or in a great measure, be accounted for, by the effects produced by the then recent revolution of the Three Days, in the stagnation of trade, and throwing a great number of individuals of various classes suddenly out of employment?

for music. To this succeeds the judgment scene, the sole strong point of the with the two women,and the visit of the Queen of Sheba, who is treated with a musical entertainment: Solomon's queen, and Zadoc the priest, being merely introduced, passim, to sing compliments to the monarch's wisdom, and grace, and splendour. It would be fruitless to point out where and how the subject is defective in its treatment, or in what way a theme so level might have been heightened and diversified, so as to become susceptible of varied musical colouring: it is needless to say that Handel never sinks below his subject in power; and, in listening to 'Solomon,' we rather were surprised to find it so little tedious, than disappointed, because our attention was, more than once, on the point of flagging. The choruses of this oratorio are written for two choirs; the first which struck us was, 'With pious heart and holy tongue,' with its grand succession of opening Another peculiar feature in its structure is, that Handel, either by a mistake of apprehension, or, possibly, from having written for some particular musice, has given the whole part of Solomon to a soprano—this, of itself, would make the work monotonous in performance if rigidly adhered to; on the other hand, when transposition is resorted to, as was the case yesterday week, (an air or two and some of the recitatives being allotted to the tenor singers), the continuity must of necessity be broken. Our remarks will well introduce our praise of Mrs. Bishop, for her delicate execution of the smooth and devotional air 'What though I trace.' Miss Masson's song, which follows, ' With thee th' unsheltered moor I'd tread, is a lovely pastorale in the old style-one of the sweetest things in the oratorio; she sung it very charmingly. We must next mention the dainty and fanciful nightingale chorus, 'May no rash intruder,' and the jubilant 'From the censer': \_it does the heart good to hear the triumphant way in which the singers always give this latter chorus, which rarely fails of being encored. We are trespassing upon our space, but we cannot pass the trio for the two women and Solomon, sung by Mrs. A. Shaw, Miss Bruce, and Miss Tipping. The performance of Mrs. Shaw was admirable; and the word is applied here with peculiar fitness, her whole part being essentially dramatic. Her great air, which follows, 'Can I see my infant gored? may be made, and she may make it, as popular a scene as the far-famed 'Deeper and deeper still' from the lips of Braham. It was to us the one song of the oratorio; the only others we must mention being Miss Woodyatt's short cantabile, 'Thus rolling surges rise,' with its sweet flowing chorus, and Mr. Horncastle's bravura, 'See the tall palm.' The descriptive choruses 'Music, spread thy voice aloud,' 'Shake the dome,' and 'Draw the tear from hopeless love,' are in Handel's fine descriptive manner: in particular, the expression of the close of the

Lengthen out a solemn air Full of death and wild despair,

is excellent in its force and character. But we must stop; tempting as is a new work of Handel's (and 'Solomon' may be called so to all intents and purposes) for expatiation and analysis. It is impossible to praise too highly the care with which, as a whole, it had been practised; the choruses, too, are immense ly improved by the parts for brass instruments, which have been judiciously added to the score, by Sir George Smart. Besides the singers we have already named, Miss Wagstaff, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Elliott, and Mr. Turner, took part in the performances of the evening.

Second Performance.-Here the Oratorio of 'Israel in Egypt' was the principal attraction. The miscellaneous selection, of which the first act consisted, was, on the whole, judiciously made: it included a fine hymn by Pfeffel, then first performed in England; another novelty, a psalm by Spohr, for four solo voices and two choirs,-the gravity and nobleness of this work were enhanced by the organ being the only instrument employed in its accompaniment; and it closed with the 'Gloria,' from Beet-hoven's Mass in c. Why this composition should be robbed of part of its beauty, by being performed with maimed English words, instead of the more resonant and "kingly language of the glorious dead," with which it is united in the original work, we cannot

been here permitted to retain their Latin words. The choruses, on the whole, went admirably: the solo singers who appeared in the course of the evening were Madame Caradori, Mrs. Bishop, Miss Bruce, Miss Masson, Miss Rainforth, (who has vibrated back, in our estimation, to the first place there occupied by her,) Miss K. Robson, Mrs. E. Seguin, Mr. Barker, Mr. Hobbs, Mr. Machin, Mr. Sapio (with the wreck of one of the most beautiful tenor voices now extant), Mr. Stretton, and Mr. Turner. What can we say new of 'Israel in Egypt,' without exhausting the unmeaning column of superlatives? The most satisted listener must be kindled to all enthusiasm of his youngest days, by its incomparable suite of choruses; and we forgot time, and fatigue, and the captiousness which follows too constant an experience of even the most favourite pleasure, as, one after another, these noble inspirations were uttered by those who felt their majesty: one of Handel's great secrets, indeed, was the power of warming not merely his audience, but also his orchestra; but are not the two things synonymous? The porten-tous chorus, 'He spake the word,' was encored—the Hailstone chorus, too;—and a like honour might justly have been paid to the two, 'He smote all the first-born of Egypt,' and ' But as for his people,' (so admirable in cheerful calmness of its subject, as contrasted with the wild strain to which it succeeds,) and to the scena 'He rebuked the Red Sea.' But it is fruitless to go on. Let us, however, thank the Directors of this Festival, for having permitted us another opportunity of enjoying the highest musical treat we know: nor must we omit to do honour to Mr. Turle, for the masterly manner in which he presided at the organ. At the rehearsal, we are told, there was hardly standing-room to be found: the hall was much more thinly attended at the full performance. From this, it would seem, as if the prices of the tickets had been fixed unwisely high.

Third Rehearsal .- We may depart from our usual course in noticing a rehearsal instead of a performance in the case of the Messiah, for the purpose of closing our report of the Amateur Festival this week. and because there can remain nothing to be said of this Oratorio, save to mention the names of the artists employed in it, and to express general satisfaction or displeasure at the execution of the tasks assigned to them. The singers, on the present occasion, were Mrs. W. Knyvett, Mrs. E. Seguin, Mrs. A. Shaw, Miss Tipping, Miss Wagstaff, Miss Woodyatt, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Hobbs, Mr. Horncastle, Mr. Machin, Mr. Sapio, Mr. Stretton, and Mr. Turner, the three first ladies taking the lead both in performance as well as in position in the scheme. Mrs. Shaw was well as in position in the scheme. deservedly encored in 'He shall feed his flock.' Mr. Machin and Mr. Stretton, too, deserve honourable mention for their delivery of the bass songs. Bennett might have been called in with good effect to strengthen the ranks of the tenor singers. The choruses were superb, and the Hall was crowded. As a whole, this meeting has raised the amateurs of England another step in our good graces; we were little aware, till lately, how rich the metropolis was in available talent: and our musical friends will, we suspect, be, some of them, surprised to hear, that a surplus of three hundred vocalists and instrumentalists remain unemployed, who formed a part of the chorus and orchestra on the former occasion. We are indebted for this fact to a correspondent.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK .- The old adage, touching a certain patient quadruped between two wisps of hay, represented our state rather than our sagacity on Monday evening: the Fifth Vocal Concert, and the second meeting of the Societa Armonica, being both fixed for the same hour, and each offering its own attractions and temptations; the consequence was, that we only partook of a part of either entertainment. At the first, we had the pleasure of being present at Mr. Bennett's encore in the delicious song from 'Semele,' 'O sleep!' We almost prefer this to any other of Handel's songs with violoncello obligato, \_\_it is so lulling, and yet so impassioned; Mr. Bennett did full justice to its character: at present, he is our first English tenor singer, as much in right of the refinement of his style, as of his pure and mu-sical voice; and Lindley was particularly happy in his accompaniment. The Offertorium, by Eybler, in cularly striking. The Madrigal, by Morley, 'I follow, lo!' is quaintly felicitous in the expression of its two last lines\_

Yet cease I not pursuing, but, since I thus have sought her, Will run me out of breath till I have caught her: of course it went admirably. The singers engaged at these Concerts being for the most part the same, there is no occasion to enumerate them. It grieved us to leave unheard the 'Gloria' from Hummel's Second Mass, and the air from 'Euryanthe.'-At the Societa Armonica, Rubini and Tamburini were the principal vocal attraction, the ladies being Mrs. E. Seguin and Mdlle. Ostergaard; the latter, in her song from 'Jessonda,' put our courtesy and endurance to their severest trial. Tamburini was encored in Rossini's charming and national Tarantella, 'La Danza,' from his last set of songs: this artist, by way of giving the utmost finish to his notes, occasionally squeezes them out in a manner which trenches upon affectation. The other items of the vocal part of the scheme, were well-known Italian songs and duets, &c. The instrumental novelty was Spohr's Overture to ' Macbeth,' a fine composition in B minor, with stern startling blasts for the wind instruments, and an introduction, in which a grave muttering passage for the basses prepares the mind for a tale of mystery. We should call it one of Spohr's very best overtures. Mr. Mori and Mr. Forbes had places in the scheme for solos: the band was in better order than we have yet found it at these Concerts, and the room rather more than full. — The last Quartett Concert was given this day week, with an excellent selection of music. We were glad to perceive, at the foot of the programme, the promise of a future series of these delightful entertainments. Would it not answer to begin them early in the autumn, and thus trust to the pa tronage of the resident amateurs, rather than that of the fashionable public, during the feverish full season; a time, when music so delicate, and, though excellent, unobtrusive, is in some danger of being thrust out of sight by the furore excited by Opera singers and other foreign musical lions?

Drury Lane.—Mrs. Sharp, who made a very successful appearance in *Lady Macbeth*, has since performed *Constance* in 'King John.' On this latter occasion we saw her, and our impression of her talents was decidedly favourable, although we regret to say, that she was evidently labouring under such severe indisposition, that it was impossible for her to do justice to herself.

COVENT GARDEN.—An English version of Casimir Delavigne's 'Don Juan d'Autriche,' has been produced here. The original occupied six hours in the representation-the adaptation, something more than two. It is to be presumed that the best parts were preserved; if so, we rejoice that we escaped the remainder, for all but the last half of the last act was very syrup-of-poppyish. The plot is merely a variation on the favourite air of 'The Jewess.' Messrs. Pritchard, Bennett, and Dale, the principal male performers, gave us some fair average country acting, and perhaps their exertions were more effective than they would otherwise have been, from the very circumstance of no one of them being clever enough to throw the others into shade. The three worked evenly and abreast, and pulled their French omnibus along slowly but safely. Miss Helen Faucit had the advantage of a new part, and it was not lost upon her. She played extremely well, and gave to the piece the principal part of the success it met with. Miss Murray would have done more if she had tried less; she fell into the mistake of attempting to force her part beyond its due degree of prominence on the scene; she played however with much spirit. The writing of this drama is the most unequal thing we have met with for a long time. It is alternately high-flown and flippant, now poetical, now prosy-one moment sublime, the next ridiculous. The play-bill puff, which has been put forth on the occasion, is couched in terms of surpassing effrontery, and yet there is some ingenuity in its concoction. Every anticipation has been realized, it says, and "this drama stands confessed the most successful of the season;" now it is a dullish drama certainly, but it might be several degrees worse than it is, and yet "stand confessed" (!!) the best drama of a season in which more rubbish has been produced, divine; portions of other Catholic services having | which Miss Woodyatt took the solo, was not parti- | than we ever remember to have had the painful duty

of enduring in the time. It is not difficult, for instance, for any play to "stand confessed" better than three dramas (too tedious to mention), all of which were most justly condemned in quick succession. But for the ridiculous quackery of the bills, these painful little reminiscences would not have been called up.

We had nearly forgotten to state, that on Saturday last, the night on which 'Don Juan of Austria' was brought out, the audience were kept waiting until a quarter past seven, before the gentlemen of the orhestra made their appearance. We have since learned the cause. The theatre, it appears, had been let for a public dinner in the middle of the week, and the per-formances having been necessarily suspended for two nights in consequence, the performers, when they ap-plied for their salaries on the Saturday, were actually offered four nights pay instead of six! Now we ought perhaps to be somewhat severe upon this attempted injustice, but we shall leave the actors to fight their own battle, well aware that if they hold together as they ought, they can successfully resist it. There is a public ground, however, on which it must not escape notice. Whenever there has been any application for a licence for a new theatre, we have had the two great metropolitans barking about their patents, and the necessity for their being protected. We contend that, by this one act, Covent Garden is precluded from all further ground of opposition. If this theatre has an exclusive right to furnish the public with dramatic entertainments, the public, on the other hand, has an undoubted right to such dramatic entertainments as it has to furnish during the whole of the regular season. Now the public has been deprived of this right by the lessee for two nights; and why? Because the lessee had an advantageous offer to let the theatre as a tavern, which offer he at once accepted. There can be no doubt that his reason for accepting it was, that he should receive more money for its use as a tavern, than he could hope to make by it for the two nights as a theatre, and therefore he shuts out the play-going public, stops the salaries of his actors, and pockets the rent. The principle once conceded, there wants The principle once conceded, there wants nothing but an increased demand for accommodation for dinners of the same extent, and the Royal Theatre is permanently converted into a Royal Tavern, with a Patent which may be applied to the beermachine, or the cooking apparatus. The interests of the drama sink in those of the lessee, and the public dine while the performers starve.

English Opena House.—In a hasty mention of this theatre last week, the authorship of the new drama, called 'Lucille,' was erroneously attributed to Mr. Serle. We have since attended this place of amusement (for, as now conducted, it really is a place of amusement), and have seen the drama in question, of which Mr. Bernard is the author. It is a piece of considerable interest, remarkably well written, and acted with great ease and nature from beginning to end by everybody concerned. We hardly feel that we have done justice to the author in simply saying that it is remarkably well written. The language has neatness, point, elegance, nature, and force to recommend it. The author has carried composition up to the extreme point to which it should be allowed to ascend in a drama of this description. without going one inch beyond. The same sort of praise is due to the acting of Mrs. Keeley, Messrs. Williams, Serle, Hemming, Oxberry, M'Ian, and, indeed, to all concerned. It would seem that they have all caught the infection from the author, and brought nature and art into a closer connexion than they are usually seen in on the stage. Two farces owed, one called, 'The Captain is not a-Miss,' in which Mrs. Nisbett has a part altogether unworthy of her, and which, though laughable, is but a poor affair; the other, entitled, 'A Day Well Spent,' is an excellent bit of fun, with a running fire of jokes, verbal and practical, and some very amusing acting by Messrs. Wrench, Oxberry, and others. Mr. Oxenford is the writer of it; and it has acquired such favour with the audiences of this theatre, as to be likely to have a long run. The evening concluded with the old-established favourite, 'Gordon the MISCELLANEA

The Academy of Sciences at St. Petersburgh had, in January, a public meeting in commemoration of the hundred and ninth anniversary of its foundation. The Secretary announced that, among other acquisitions, the Academy had obtained severy large collection of Asiatic MSS., namely, the whole collection formerly belonging to Baron Schilling, consisting of 233 Chinese and Mantchoo works, 34 Japanese, 39 Tibetian and Mongol, and 8 Indian. The Academy has also purchased in London, 73 Indian MSS. from the library of the late Col. Stewart, chiefly Sanscrit, and also 43 Mongol and Tibetian works, purchased at Peking. But one essay had been received, sent by a candidate for the prize proposed in 1832. It was entitled, 'A History of the Eastern Mongols in Kiptschak.' The very great extent of this work, and the importance of the subject, have made it impossible for the committee appointed by the Academy to complete the examination of it, so as to announce the decision of the Academy, which will however, be done early in the year.

done early in the year.

Hungary.—The Diet manifests a very laudable anxiety for the promotion of Literature and Science; all the sums proposed in the budget for such purposes were voted unanimously. The Assembly also showed much eagerness with respect to the Hungarian Academy which has long since been decided upon, and it was proposed to open it this year. It was also resolved to build a National Museum on a scale worthy the dignity of the nation. Lastly, they have voted 400,000 florins for the building of a National Theatre. The finances of Hungary the more easily admit of such expenses, as the nation has no debt.

There were very great rejoicings at Presburgh on the 18th of February, and the city was splendidly illuminated, on the return of the Archduke Palatine, who had obtained the Emperor's accession to the wishes of the Diet, allowing the use of the Hungarian language instead of the Latin, in all judicial and

public transactions.

Discovery at Pompeii.—Professor Zahn has announced to the world, that a rich discovery has just taken place at Pompeii, in a house forming part of the Strada di Mercurio. Although of insignificant appearance, there were found in this dwelling, pictures in fresco, representing Narcissus and Endymion; fourteen vases of silver, and a great quantity of coins, among which were twenty-nine pieces of gold, struck during the reign of the first Roman emperors. Also, two other vases of silver, five inches in diameter, and ornamented with carving, representing Cupids, Centaurs, and emblems of Bacchus and Ceres.

Libraries.—The Royal Library of Paris, which under Charles the Fifth contained only 910 volumes, now possesses 600,000 printed books, and 80,000 manuscripts, without reckoning pamphlets, &c. The Arsenal Library has 175,000 volumes; that of Sainte Généviève 160,000. The Mazarine contains 90,000 printed volumes, and 3,437 manuscripts.

New African Traveller.—A M. Picart is about to proceed immediately to the coast of Guinea, by order of a society of naturalists, in order to discover and make known the natural productions of that country. He is also to visit that rich field for observation, the shores of the Gabon river. M. Picart has offered to the French Academy of Sciences, to perform any commands with which they may intrust him, and which do not entail upon him the use of delicate and expensive instruments. This body has referred M. Picart to the instructions of the committee, drawn up for the use of the Bonite.

Carp.—A singular carp has been found in the waters of the Lot, about three leagues from Cahors, between the village of Vers and the church of Nôtre Dame de Velles. It lived among the rocks in the bed of the river, and weighed twelve pounds. Its head was much shorter in proportion, but much wider, than that of the ordinary carp; and some projections in front, and here and there on the opercula on each side, gave it a swollen appearance. There were, however, no traces of any disease which might have occasioned these protuberances. The mouth was furnished with four barbs. At the back of the head, and origin of the dorsal fin, the spinous processes formed a callosity on the back, which was very hard to the touch. The dorsal fin was very long, and contained twenty-two rays, the two first of which were short and thick, and the third strong and

dentated. The anal fin had seven rays, the first dentated; the ventrals nine, and the pectorals four-teen. The colour resembled that of the Chinese gold-fish, (Cyprinus auratus,) passing into a reddish white on the abdomen; the tips of the barbs were of a deep black, and the lips of a vinous red. Epicures found it excellent eating; and the fishermen declare that they have seen another of the same kind in the same place, but much larger.

in the same place, but much larger.

Anecdote of the late Marchioness of Salisbury

—[From a Correspondent].—In the year 1798, the late Mr. O'Keeffe brought out, at Drury Lane Theatre, his last dramatic piece, a comedy called 'She's Eloped.' From the time of its acceptance by the managers, to its final appearance, it met with many vexatious inpediments, occasioned by the Licenser objecting to certain passages against the then meditated Union of England and Ireland; the consequence was, the part of the patriot, Major Blenner, was reduced to that of a mere walking gentleman. Three times were the rehearsals suspended, and as often resumed. The day before the announced performance, another prohibition arrived.
This last interdiction was received with astonishment and vexation by all the parties assembled at the mo-ment on the stage. By Mr. Sheridan's direction, an instant appeal must be made to Lord Salisbury, the Lord Chamberlain-" Go yourself, Mr. O'Keeffe," said the manager; and to Arlington Street he went, leaving a crowded stage behind him. That nobleman received him kindly, half smiling at the unconquerable scruples of Mr. Larpent, and said, "I can have no objection whatever to the comedy being performed, but you must have the Licenser's permission. Get over Larpent's prohibition, and all will be well: write or send to him, and no doubt but he will consider better of it." The letter was writ-ten at the house of the Marquis and sent, and the anxious author hurried back to the theatre, to which the answer was to be forwarded. A favourable one came within the hour, and once more, all in happy spirits, manager, author, and performers, separated to meet again the next morning for the last rehearsal. The morning came, the rehearsal began, and went on smoothly, until the middle of the fourth act, when a messenger arrived with a letter, wholly and finally forbidding the performance; the Licenser gave no reason, but thus issued his commands, to which he expected prompt obedience. The par-ties now stood thunderstruck. The hapless author, who had estimated his comedy at the same price as his 'Wild Oats,' 400 guineas, (putting fame out of the question,) was speechless. "Go again yourself, the question,) was speechless. "Go again yourself, Mr. O'Keeffe," was the advice of many, particularly Mr. Cumberland, and Mr. M. G. Lewis, (one had written the prologue, and the other the epilogue); and, without a moment's delay, to Arlington Street he went again. The Marquis had gone out of town. The author turned in silence from the door, but had not gone ten yards, when a footman ran after him, saying, his Lady wished to speak to him. The Marchioness of Salisbury had seen him from her drawing-room window, and into her presence he was now ushered, the effect of indignation, rage, and wounded feelings, visible on his countenance. "What is all this, Mr. O'Keeffe?" said the Marchioness. "My Lord is at Hatfield, and even an express could not re turn in time for the performance this evening. What is it Mr. Licenser objects to? Your plays have always been moral, and we are witnesses to their loyalty\_where can the objection lie?"\_"I deprecate the intended Union, Madam," said the author; and Mr. John Palmer and Mrs. Jordan are made the vehicles of my sentiments."—" Well, well," said Lady Salisbury, "I see how it is; but not being too late for expunging whatever may be objectionable, I think I can find a remedy; let your hero and heroine speak as little as possible on Irish politics\_the less the better-better not at all, and the play shall less the better—better not at an, and the play some be performed this very night—yes, I take it on my own responsibility, Mr. O'Keeffe, that your comedy shall be acted this very evening,"—"But Mr. Lar-pent, Madam?"—"Never mind Mr. Larpent," said the kind-hearted Marchioness, "I will speak to my Lord himself; I am the great pan of the dairy," (quoting his own words). There now, go, and I will run the whole risk of permitting its representation, in spite of all the Court Licensers."-And the play was performed.

## ADVERTISEMENTS

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The SUMMER TERM will commence on Wednesday, May 4th, and terminate at the end of July.

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POLITICAL ECONOMY.—Professor the Rev. R. JONES, will begin his Course of Lectures on Tursday, the 3rd of May, at 2 o clock in the Aftermon, and continue them every succeeding Tuesday, at the same hour, until the Course is completed.

BOTANY.—Professor Dox will give his Introductory Lecture on Monday, the 2nd of May, at 2 o clock in the Aftermon. Syllabus of the Course may be obtained at the Secretary's Office, and at the Medical Booksellers.

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ROYAL SOCIETY of LITERATURE.—The
GENERAL ANNIVERSARY MEETING for the Election of the President, Vice-Presidents, Council, and Officers for
the ensuing Year, and for other Business, will be held on
THURSDAY, the 28th instant, at the Society's House, St.
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